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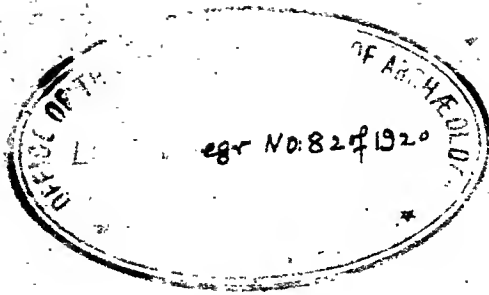
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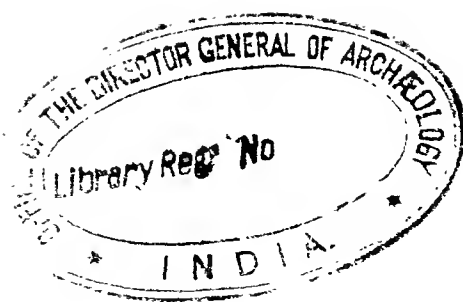
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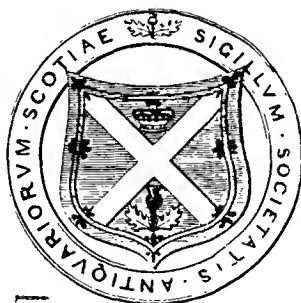




PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

SESSION  
MDCCCCXVIII.—MDCCCCXIX.

2074



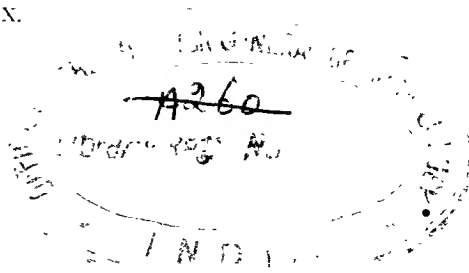
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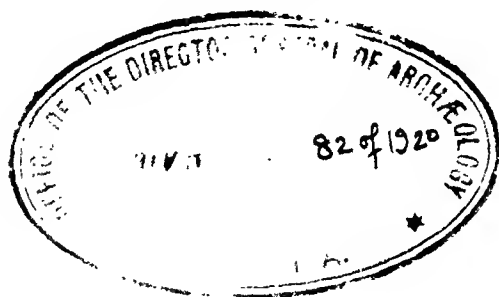
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L A W S  
OF THE  
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

INSTITUTED NOVEMBER 1780 AND INCORPORATED BY  
ROYAL CHARTER 6TH MAY 1783.

*(Revised and adopted November 30, 1901.)*

---

1. The purpose of the Society shall be the promotion of ARCHEOLOGY, especially as connected with the investigation of the ANTIQUITIES AND HISTORY OF SCOTLAND.

2. The Society shall consist of Fellows, Honorary Fellows, Corresponding Members, and Lady Associates.

3. Candidates for admission as Fellows must sign the Form of Application prescribed by the Council, and must be proposed by a Fellow and seconded by two members of the Council. Admission shall be by ballot.

4. The Secretaries shall cause the names of the Candidates and of their Proposers to be inserted in the billet calling the Meeting at which they are to be balloted for. The Ballot may be taken for all the Candidates named in the billet at once; but if three or more black balls appear, the Chairman of the Meeting shall cause the Candidates to be balloted for singly. Any Candidate receiving less than two-thirds of the votes given shall not be admitted.

5. Honorary Fellows shall consist of persons eminent in Archæology, who must be recommended by the Council, and balloted for in the same way as Fellows: and they shall not be liable for any fees of admission or annual subscriptions. The number of Honorary Fellows shall not exceed twenty-five.



6. Corresponding Members must be recommended by the Council and balloted for in the same way as Fellows, and they shall not be liable for any fees of admission or annual subscriptions.

7. Ladies who have done valuable work in the field of Archæology may be admitted as Lady Associates. The number of Lady Associates shall not exceed twenty-five. They shall be proposed by the Council and balloted for in the same way as Fellows, and shall not be liable for any fees of admission or annual subscriptions.

8. Before the name of any person is added to the List of Fellows, such person shall pay to the funds of the Society Two Guineas as an entrance fee and One Guinea for the current year's subscription, or may compound for the entrance fee and all annual subscriptions by the payment of Twenty Guineas at the time of admission. Fellows may compound for future annual subscriptions by a single payment of Fifteen Guineas after having paid five annual subscriptions; or of Ten Guineas after having paid ten annual subscriptions.

9. The subscription of One Guinea shall become due on the 30th November in each year for the year then commencing; and if any Fellow who has not compounded shall fail to pay the subscription for three successive years, due application having been made for payment, the Treasurer shall report the same to the Council, by whose authority the name of the defaulter may be erased from the list of Fellows.

10. Every Fellow not being in arrears of the annual subscription shall be entitled to receive the printed Proceedings of the Society from the date of election.

11. None but Fellows shall vote or hold any office in the Society.

12. Subject to the Laws and to the control of the Society in General Meetings, the affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Council elected and appointed as hereinafter set forth. Five Members of the Council shall be a quorum.

13. The Office-Bearers of the Society shall consist of a President, three Vice-Presidents, two Secretaries for general purposes, two Secretaries for Foreign Correspondence, a Treasurer, two Curators of the Museum, a Curator of Coins, and a Librarian. The President shall be elected for a period of five years, and the Vice-Presidents for a period of three years.

One of the Vice-Presidents shall retire annually by rotation and shall not again be eligible for the same office until after the lapse of one year. All the other Office-Bearers shall be elected for one year and shall be eligible for re-election.

14. In accordance with the agreement subsisting between the Society and the Government, the Board of Manufactures (now the Board of Trustees) shall be represented on the Council by two of its Members (being Fellows of the Society) elected annually by the Society. The Treasury shall be represented on the Council by the King's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer (being a Fellow of the Society).

15. The Council shall consist of the Office-Bearers, the three representative Members above specified, and nine Fellows, elected by the Society.

16. Three of the nine elected Members of Council shall retire annually by rotation, and shall not again be eligible till after the lapse of one year. Vacancies among the elected Members of Council and Office-Bearers occurring by completion of term of office, by retirement on rotation, by resignation, by death or otherwise, shall be filled by election at the Annual General Meeting. The election shall be by Ballot, upon a list issued by the Council for that purpose to the Fellows at least fourteen days before the Meeting.

17. The Council may appoint committees or individuals to take charge of particular departments of the Society's business.

18. The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall take place on St Andrew's Day, the 30th of November, or on the following day if the 30th be a Sunday.

19. The Council shall have power to call Extraordinary General Meetings when they see cause.

20. The Ordinary Meetings of the Society shall be held on the second Monday of each month, from December to May inclusive.

21. Every proposal for altering the Laws must be made through the Council ; and the Secretaries, on instructions from the Council, shall cause intimation thereof to be made to all the Fellows at least one month before the General Meeting at which it is to be determined on.

## FORMS OF BEQUEST.

*Form of Special Bequest.*

I. A. B., do hereby leave and bequeath to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland incorporated by Royal Charter, my collection of . and I direct that the same shall be delivered to the said Society on the receipt of the Secretary or Treasurer thereof.

*General Form of Bequest.*

I. A. B., do hereby leave and bequeath to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland incorporated by Royal Charter, the sum of £      sterling [*to be used for the general purposes of the Society*] [*or, to be used for the special purpose or object, of*      ], and I direct that the said sum may be paid to the said Society on the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being.

# LIST OF THE FELLOWS

## OF THE

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NOVEMBER 30, 1919.

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- 1905.\*COCHRANE, KENNETH, Newlaan Isle, Galashiels.
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- 1901.\*COCHRAN-PATRICK, Mrs ELLA A. K., Woodside Beith.
- 1898.\*COCHRAN-PATRICK, NEIL J. KENNEDY, of Woodside, Advocate, Ladyland, Beith.
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- 1886.\*DAVIDSON, JAMES, Solicitor, Kirriemuir.
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- 1896.\*DRUMMOND, ROBERT, C.E., Fairfield, Paisley.
- 1895.\*DRUMMOND-MORAY, Capt. W. H., of Abercairney, Crieff.
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1913. \*GLENCONNER, The Right Hon. LORD, The Glen, Innerleithen.
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- 1865.\*HAY, ROBERT J. A., c/o Messrs Dundas & Wilson, 16 St Andrew Square.
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- 1889.\*HENDERSON, JAMES STEWART, 1 Pond Street, Hampstead, London, N.W.3.
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- 1900.\*KINTORE, The Right Hon. The Earl of, G.C.M.G., LL.D., Keith Hall, Inverurie.
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- 1890.\*MACLEOD, Sir REGINALD, K.C.B. Vinters, Maidstone, Kent.
1909. MACLEOD, Major ROBERT CRAWFORD, 19 Scotland Street.
- 1907.\*MACLEOD, Rev. WILLIAM H., B.A. Cantab., Manse of Buchanan, Drymen.
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1905. MACMILLAN, H. P., K.C., 32 Moray Place.
1916. MACMILLAN, Rev. WILLIAM, Chaplain to the Forces, St Leonard's Manse, Dunfermline.
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1918. MACPHERSON, DONALD, 57 Forsyth Street, Greenock.
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1908. MACRAE, Rev. DONALD, B.D., The Manse, Eddleton, Ross-shire.
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- 1882.\*MACRITCHIE, DAVID, C.A., 4 Archibald Place — *Ex-President*.
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- 1890.\***MITCHELL, SYDNEY**, Architect, The Pleasance, Gullane.
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- 1887.\***MOUREAU, JOHN J.**, Naemoor, Rumbling Bridge.
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- 1878.\***MURRAY, DAVID, M.A., LL.D., F.S.A.**, 100 West George Street, Glasgow.
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loch.
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OF THE  
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND,  
NOVEMBER 30, 1910.

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[According to the Laws, the number is limited to TWENTY-FIVE.]

1885.

Dr ERNEST CHANTRE, The Museum, Lyons.

1892.

Professor LUIGI PIGORINI, Director of the Royal Archæological Museum, Rome.

1897.

W. M. FLINDERS PETRIE, D.C.L., F.B.A., LL.D., F.R.S., Edwards Professor of Egyptology in University College, London, W.C. 1.

Dr SOPHUS MÜLLER, Secretary of the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, and Director of the National Museum, Copenhagen.

5 Professor OSCAR MONTELIUS, LL.D., Emeritus Royal Antiquary of Sweden, Stockholm.

1900.

EMILE CARTAILHAC, 5 Rue de la Chaine, Toulouse.

Rev. S. BARING GOULD, Lew Trenchard, North Devon.

ROBERT BURNARD, Huccaby House, Princetown, S. Devon.

1908.

SIR ARTHUR JOHN EVANS, M.A., D.C.L., Youlbury, near Oxford.

10 SALOMON REINACH, Director of the National Museum of Antiquities of France, St Germain-en-Laye.

Professor H. DRAGENDORFF, Zehlendorferstrasse, 55 Lichterfelde (West), Berlin-Gr.

Professor E. RITTERLING, Director of the Römisch-Germanische Kommission, Eschersheimer Landstrasse 107, Frankfurt-on-Main.

1910.

13 LÉON COUTIL, Correspondant du Ministère de l'Instruction Publique, etc., etc., Saint Pierre du Vauvray, Eure, France.

LIST OF THE LADY ASSOCIATES  
OF THE  
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND,  
NOVEMBER 30, 1911.

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[According to the Laws, the number is limited to TWENTY-FIVE.]

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1888.

The Right Hon. The Countess of SELKIRK, Balmae, Kirkcudbright.

1891.

Miss EMMA SWANN, Walton Manor, Oxford.

1900

Miss M. A. MURRAY, Edwards Library, University College, London, W.C. 1.

† Mrs E. S. ARMITAGE, Westholm, Rawdon, Leeds.

## SOCIETIES, INSTITUTIONS, &c., EXCHANGING PUBLICATIONS.

Architectural, Archæological, and Historic Society  
 of Chester and North Wales.  
 Berwickshire Naturalists' Club.  
 Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society.  
 British Archæological Association.  
 Buchan Field Club.  
 Buteshire Natural History Society.  
 Cambrian Archæological Association.  
 Cambridge Antiquarian Society.  
 Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and  
 Archæological Society.  
 Derbyshire Archæological and Natural History  
 Association.  
 Dumfriesshire Natural History and Antiquarian  
 Society.  
 Edinburgh Architectural Association.  
 Elgin Literary and Scientific Society.  
 Essex Archæological Society.  
 Gaelic Society of Inverness.  
 Geological Society of Edinburgh.  
 Glasgow Archæological Society.  
 Hawick Archæological Society.  
 Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire.  
 Institute of Archæology, Liverpool.  
 Kent Archæological Society.  
 New Spalding Club.  
 Perthshire Society of Natural Science.  
 Royal Anthropological Institute.  
 Royal Archæological Institute of Great Britain  
 and Ireland.  
 Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical  
 Monuments in Scotland.  
 Royal Historical Society.  
 Royal Irish Academy.  
 Royal Numismatic Society.  
 Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland.  
 Scottish Ecclesiological Society.

Shropshire Archæological Society.  
 Society of Antiquaries of London.  
 Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.  
 Society of Architects.  
 Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History  
 Society.  
 Stirling Natural History and Archæological Society.  
 Surrey Archæological Society.  
 Sussex Archæological Society.  
 Thoresby Society.  
 Viking Club.  
 Wiltshire Archæological Society.  
 Yorkshire Archæological Society.

### FOREIGN SOCIETIES, UNIVERSITIES, MUSEUMS, &c.

Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres, Paris.  
 Alterthums-gesellschaft, Königs-berg.  
 Anthropologische Gesellschaft, Vienna.  
 Antiquarische Gesellschaft, Zurich.  
 Archæological Survey of India.  
 Berliner Gesellschaft für Anthropologie.  
 Bosnisch-Herzegovinisches Landes-Museum, Sara-  
 jevo.  
 British School at Rome.  
 Bureau of Ethnology, Washington.  
 Centralblatt für Anthropologie, Stettin.  
 California University.  
 Christiania University.  
 Colombo Museum, Ceylon.  
 Columbia University.  
 Commissione Archeologica Comunale di Roma.  
 Ecole d'Anthropologie de Paris.  
 Faculté des Sciences de Lyon.  
 Foreningen til Norske Fortidsminde-merkeis  
 Bevaring.

Gesellschaft für Nutzhiche Forschung, Trier.  
 Göteborg och Bohusläns Fornminnesföreningen.  
 Göttingen University.  
 Historische und Antiquarische Gesellschaft, Basel.  
 Historische Verein für Niedersachsen.  
 Institut de Paléontologie Humaine, Paris.  
 Kiel University.  
 Kongelige Norske Videnskabers Selskab, Tromsø.  
 Leipzig University.  
 Musée Guimet, Paris.  
 Musée National Suisse à Zurich.  
 Museum, Bergen, Norway.  
 Museum of Northern Antiquities, Christiania.  
 National Museum of Croatia.  
 Nordiska Museet, Stockholm.  
 Norsk Folkemuseum, Christiania.  
 Peabody Museum, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.  
 Physico-Oekonomische Gesellschaft, Königsberg.  
 Prähistorische Kommission der Kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften in Wien.  
 Provincial Museum, Toronto, Canada.  
 Reale Accademia dei Lincei, Rome.  
 Römisch-Germanisches Central Museum, Mainz.  
 Römisch-Germanische Kommission des Kaiserlichen Archäologischen Instituts, Frankfurt am Main.  
 Royal Academy of History and Antiquities, Stockholm.  
 Royal Bohemian Museum, Prague.  
 Royal Canadian Institute, Toronto.  
 Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, Copenhagen.  
 Saalburg Kommission, Homburg, v. d. H.  
 Smithsonian Institution, Washington, U.S.A.  
 Società Romana di Antropologia, Rome.  
 Société d'Anthropologie de Paris.  
 Société des Antiquaires de l'Ouest.  
 Société Archéologique d'Alexandrie.  
 Société Archéologique de Constantine, Algeria.  
 Société Archéologique du Midi de la France.  
 Société Archéologique de Montpellier.  
 Société Archéologique de Moravie.  
 Société Archéologique de Namur.  
 Société des Bollandistes, Brussels.  
 Société Finlandaise d'Archéologie, Helsingfors.  
 Société d'Histoire et d'Archéologie de Gand.  
 Société Nationale des Antiquaires de France.  
 Société Royale d'Archéologie de Bruxelles.  
 Städtisches Museum für Völkerkunde, Leipzig.

University Museum, Dunedin, New Zealand.  
 Upsala University.  
 Verein für Nassauische Alterthumskunde, Wiesbaden.  
 Verein von Alterthumsfreunden im Rheinlande, Bonn.

## PERIODICALS.

*L'Anthropologie*, Paris.

## LIBRARIES, BRITISH.

Advocates' Library, Edinburgh.  
 Athenæum Club Library, London.  
 Bodleian Library, Oxford.  
 British Museum Library.  
 Chetham's Library, Manchester.  
 Durham Cathedral Library.  
 Faculty of Procurators' Library, Glasgow.  
 Free Library, Edinburgh.  
 Free Library, Liverpool.  
 Mitchell Library, Glasgow.  
 National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth.  
 Ordnance Survey Library, Southampton.  
 Public Record Office Library, London.  
 Royal Library, Windsor.  
 Royal Scottish Museum Library, Edinburgh.  
 Scottish National Portrait Gallery Library.  
 Signet Library, Edinburgh.  
 Trinity College Library, Dublin.  
 United Free Church College Library, Edinburgh.  
 University Library, Aberdeen.  
 University Library, Cambridge.  
 University Library, Edinburgh.  
 University Library, Glasgow.  
 University Library, St Andrews.  
 Victoria and Albert Museum Library, London.

## LIBRARIES, FOREIGN.

Imperial Library, Vienna.  
 National Library, Paris.  
 Newberry Library, Chicago, U.S.A.  
 Public Library, Hamburg.  
 Royal Library, Berlin.  
 Royal Library, Copenhagen.  
 Royal Library, Dresden.  
 Royal Library, Munich, Bavaria.  
 Royal Library, Stockholm.

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND

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HUNDRED AND THIRTY-NINTH SESSION, 1918-1919

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ANNIVERSARY MEETING, *2nd December* 1918.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD ABERCROMBY. LL.D., President.  
in the Chair.

The Hon. Lord Sands and Mr W. Traquair Dickson were appointed Scrutineers of the Ballot for the election of Office-Bearers.

The Ballot having been concluded, the Scrutineers found and declared the List of the Council for the ensuing year to be as follows:—

*President.*

The Right Hon. LORD CARMICHAEL of Skirling, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G.

*Vice-Presidents.*

PATRICK MURRAY, W.S.

DAVID MACRITCHIE.

SIR JAMES BALFOUR PAUL, C.V.O., LL.D.

*Councillors.*

Sir JOHN R. FINDLAY, K.B.E. The Hon. HEW HAMIL- TON DALRYMPLE, M.P.	} <i>Representing the Board of Trustees.</i>	JOHN BRUCE.
		JAMES MACLEHOSE, M.A., LL.D.
		JOHN G. KIRKPATRICK, W.S.
Sir KENNETH MACKENZIE. Bart., <i>Representing the Treasury.</i>		The Right Hon. LORD ABERCROMBY, LL.D.
		GEORGE NEILSON, LL.D.
GEORGE MACKAY, M.D., F.R.C.S.E.		J. H. CUNNINGHAM, C.E.
J. R. N. MACPHAIL, K.C.		Rev. WILLIAM BURNETT, B.D.

*Secretaries.*

ROBERT SCOTT-MONCRIEFF, W.S. | J. GRAHAM CALLANDER.

*For Foreign Correspondence.*

The Rev. Professor A. H. SAYCE, M.A., | Professor G. BALDWIN BROWN.  
LL.D., D.D.

*Treasurer.*

JOHN NOTMAN. F.F.A.

*Curators of the Museum.*

JAMES CURLE, W.S. | Professor THOMAS H. BRYCE.

*Curator of Coins.*

GEORGE MACDONALD, C.B., F.B.A., LL.D.

*Librarian.*

WILLIAM K. DICKSON, LL.D.

A Ballot having been taken, the following were duly elected Fellows:—

His Grace THE DUKE OF ARGYLL, Inveraray Castle.

Lieut.-Colonel FREDERICK ROBERT STEPHEN BALFOUR, M.A., D.L., Dawyck,  
Stobo, Tweeddale.

DAVIDSON COOK, 16 Pollitt Street, Barnsley, Yorkshire.

Rev. W. J. COUPER, M.A., 26 Circus Drive, Dennistoun, Glasgow.

WILLIAM GARDEN, Advocate in Aberdeen, 4 Rubislaw Terrace, Aberdeen.

JAMES H. JAMIESON, 12 Sciennes Gardens.

## ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

3

DONALD A. MACKENZIE, 19 Merchiston Crescent.

GEORGE MACPHAIL, F.Z.S., Hearnesebrooke, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway, Ireland.

DONALD MACPHERSON, 57 Forsyth Street, Greenock.

The following list of members deceased since the last Annual Meeting was read:—

### *Honorary Member.*

	Elected.
Rev. Canon GREENWELL, M.A., D.C.L., Durham . . . . .	1879

### *Lady Associate.*

	Elected.
Mrs P. H. CHALMERS of Avochie . . . . .	1890

### *Corresponding Member.*

	Elected.
ALAN REID, F.E.I.S., The Loaning, Merchiston Bank Gardens . . . . .	1917

### *Fellows.*

	Elected.
RICHARD BROWN, C.A., 22 Chester Street . . . . .	1897
JAMES A. BUTTL, 7 Queen Street . . . . .	1913
Captain CLARENDON H. CRESWELL, Library, Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh . . . . .	1913
JAMES A. DUNCAN, F.R.G.S., Logie-Aston, Bridge of Allan . . . . .	1910
FARQUHARSON T. GARDEN, 4 Rubislaw Terrace, Aberdeen . . . . .	1890
JOHN RIBTON GARSTIN, D.L., M.A., Braganstown, Castlebellingham, Co. Louth . . . . .	1891
Captain ALLAN GILMOUR, yr. of Rosskeen, Woodbank, Alexandria . . . . .	1912
GILBERT GOUDIE, 31 Great King Street . . . . .	1869
CHARLES LINDSAY HARBERT, 49A Broughton Street . . . . .	1916
G. A. HARRISON, Warrender, Murrayfield Avenue . . . . .	1913
ROBERT HENDERSON, C.E., 29 York Place . . . . .	1909
JOHN W. JOHNSTON, St Ann's, Sunningfields Road, Hendon, London, N.W. . . . .	1910
Lieut.-Colonel JAMES LANG, V.D., R.E., 21 Kelvinside Terrace, Glasgow . . . . .	1892
Rev. JOHN MACÉWEN, M.A., V.D., Dyke, Forres . . . . .	1892
Sir MITCHELL MITCHELL-THOMSON, Bart., 6 Charlotte Square . . . . .	1882
ALEXANDER T. NIVEN, C.A., 28 Fountainhall Road . . . . .	1877
GEORGE D. RATTRAY, 7 Springfield, Dundee . . . . .	1913
DAVID SCOTT-MONCRIEFF, W.S., 24 George Square . . . . .	1893
ROBERT SMITH, 9 Ward Road, Dundee . . . . .	1889
Rev. JAMES STEEL, D.D., Heworth Vicarage, Gateshead-on-Tyne . . . . .	1904
ANDREW THOMSON, Burgh School, Galashiels . . . . .	1900

The meeting resolved to record their sense of the loss the Society had sustained in the death of these members.



The Secretary read the following Report by the Council on the affairs of the Society for the year ending 30th November 1918, which, on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr W. Traquair Dickson, was duly adopted :—

The Council beg to submit to the Fellows of the Society their Report for the year ending 30th November 1918.

<i>Fellowship.</i> —The total number of Fellows on the roll at 30th November 1917 was	677
At 30th November 1918 the number was	674
being a decrease of	3

There were added to the roll during the year 28 new Fellows and 1 former Fellow reinstated, while 21 Fellows died, 2 resigned, and 9 allowed their fellowship to lapse.

From our roll of Honorary Members death has removed a venerable and famous antiquary in the person of the Rev. William Greenwell, Canon and Librarian of Durham Cathedral. He obtained many years ago a high reputation as an archæologist from his scientific excavations of British barrows, the accounts of which were published in collaboration with Professor Rolleston in 1877, in a work which remains a standard book to this day. His collection of prehistoric relics, which was a notable one and included a few Scottish objects, passed a few years ago to the British Museum. Canon Greenhill had attained his 98th year, and had been an Honorary Member of the Society since 1879.

A well-remembered figure at our meetings was Mr Gilbert Goudie, whose loss we sincerely mourn. For longer years than most of us can remember he had interested himself actively in the Society's affairs, having joined as a Fellow in 1869. From 1883 to 1891 he occupied the post of Treasurer, and off and on for a long period was a member of the Council. His assiduity in preserving the records of past time is evidenced by the number of communications which he read before the Society, 23 in all—a fine record, which few Fellows have exceeded. His literary work was not, however, confined to our *Proceedings*. In collaboration with Mr Jon. A. Hjaltan he translated the *Orkneyinga Saga*, published in 1873 with an Introduction by Dr Joseph Anderson; in 1904 he brought out a volume, *The Celtic and Scandinavian Antiquities of Shetland*; and more recently he edited a mass of literary material left by David Laing, and published a Life of that notable historical antiquary. Mr Goudie was a native of Shetland, and interested himself greatly in the antiquities of his native islands, whence the subject of the brochs raised at any of the Society's meetings surely brought him to his feet to deliver some weighty but

kindly criticism. A quaint old-world courtesy lent to his manner a certain stiffness, but he combined with it a kindly sympathy and singleness of purpose which made him a valued friend to those who shared the privilege of his intimacy.

Another member of the Society who has passed away since our last General Meeting, and who till a few years ago was a regular attender at our meetings, is Mr Alan Reid. Following a lead given to him by Dr Christison, Mr Reid took up the subject of churchyard monuments in Scotland, and over a number of years contributed to our *Proceedings* records from various districts of the rude memorials of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, with occasional accounts of earlier monuments which it was his good fortune to discover. In the handling of his subject Mr Reid showed a tenderness and enthusiasm which would have graced Old Mortality. The results of his labours are contained in many pages of our *Proceedings*, and the fact that he rescued these crumbling monuments from oblivion should prove a lasting memorial to his name.

In the hour of our rejoicing over the complete victory of our arms we must not forget those whose noble sacrifice of life has contributed to this end, and to the roll of our Fellows who have already given their lives for their country and the cause of freedom we must add the names of Captain Allan Gilmour and Mr James A. Butti.

It is with feelings of unmixed thankfulness and satisfaction that once more the Society meets in its own rooms with the shadow of war removed and the full dawn of a complete and victorious peace breaking on the horizon. Happy by comparison with past years though our present condition may be, the innumerable restrictions brought about by the war on the enterprises of our Society can hardly yet be said to be alleviated. Consequently, the Report which the Council have the honour to submit on the work of the Society for the past year contains no records of official research undertaken by the Society, nor startling revelations of fresh discoveries in the field of Scottish archaeology. Our Treasurer, however, can report that there are funds at the credit of our excavation accounts, handsomely supplemented since our activities were arrested by a generous contribution from one of our Fellows, which will enable us, when demobilisation has taken place and suitable labour is procurable, once more to proceed with the exploration of Roman and native sites. Of both there is a sufficiency to occupy our attention for years, but one in either category especially calls for attention whenever circumstances permit.

At Mumrills, near Falkirk, the exact situation of a Roman fort has been ascertained, its limits gauged, and details of its character noted, so that, given the necessary permission from the present proprietor and the

services of an expert excavator, there seems no reason why a further large increase in our knowledge of Roman Caledonia and additions to our already good collection of Roman relics should not soon be forthcoming. And in this regard we may be justified in sanguine expectations, for the knowledge acquired in the excavation of the Newstead fort will probably lead to the discovery of relics in circumstances overlooked by our earlier excavators.

As for the native sites, it may safely be said that of the numerous classes of prehistoric monuments which are scattered over the length and breadth of Scotland, no single class has been explored to the extent of affording us an exhaustive survey of the culture to which it pertains or of the limitation thereof applicable to the particular class of monument. The singular success, however, which we met with in the preliminary excavation on Traprain Law urges us to place in the forefront of our programme for the future a continuance of the exploration of that site.

*Proceedings.*—Though no exploratory work has craved our attention, the advance volume of the *Proceedings* which is on the table happily contains a record of valuable research work by our Society, tending to the illumination of Scottish history and archæology, in fulfilment of the ends for which we exist. Remarkably varied are the subjects of the papers which will shortly be in the hands of the Fellows, and, while there is still the invaluable recording of the discovery of prehistoric remains which makes our *Proceedings* indispensable to archæologists at home and abroad, there are papers dealing with matters of more general interest.

The identification of a Romano-British relief of the Mother Goddesses in the garden of Hailes House, Colinton, shows how an object long known, but falsely interpreted, may suddenly take a new value and importance when it falls under proper observation. Dr Macdonald tells us that this monument, once believed to represent the Trinity, is most probably a relic of the occupation of the Roman fort at Cramond by Tungrian auxiliaries from the banks of the Rhine.

Following on a paper in the previous year's volume on a set of needlework hangings in his own possession attributed to Mary of Guise or Mary Queen of Scots, Mr Scott-Moncrieff brings to our notice other examples of similar hangings, two in the Royal Scottish Museum, and a fine set belonging to the Earl of Morton. The ventilation of the subject of the general uniform character and attribution of these hangings to Mary Queen of Scots is bringing to light the existence of others, for example, a fine set in Castle Forbes and another in the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

Sir James Balfour Paul has put on record for us the discovery of

the flag of a Lord Warden of the Marches—either Sir Patrick Home of Polwarth, Warden in 1591, or one of the Lords Home,—dating probably from about 1550. This valuable historic relic passed into the hands of a dealer as an unconsidered trifle when the contents of Marchmont House were brought under the hammer a few years ago, and it is satisfactory to know that it has once more returned to its former home, where it will be carefully treated.

Fresh ground has been broken by the Rev. Mr Primrose in considering, with reference to an ancient seal of Glasgow Cathedral, the representations of buildings on ecclesiastical seals in relation to the edifices with which such seals are connected: in a word, whether the representations are actual or conventional. It is an interesting inquiry, on which Mr Primrose will probably throw more light.

In the final paper in the volume Dr Macdonald has passed under review all recorded finds of Roman coins in Scotland, in his researches tapping every source of information between Hector Boece's *History* and our latest volumes of the *Proceedings*. He has furnished us with a critical determination of the facts which may be reasonably deduced from the character of the coins found and the circumstances of their recovery. The work involved in the preparation of this communication must have been very considerable, but the value of the result to numismatists and students of the Romano-British epoch will be correspondingly great.

This brief reference to only a small part of the contents of the forthcoming volume is sufficient to show that, even in the year of the war which most severely taxed the energies of the nation, members of the Society were yet able to produce valuable archæological work.

*The Museum.*—The number of objects added to the Museum during the past year has been 31 by donation and 14 by purchase.

Though we have regained the use of our Library and the Society's Rooms, the Museum galleries still remain in occupation of the Timber Department of the Board of Trade, and the valuable national collections remain lost to the public, for the time being, in the safes, cellars, etc., to which they were consigned in 1914. Now that hostilities have ceased there should be some early prospect of the completion of the structural work, which was interrupted by lack of material, and of a commencement being made with the reinstatement of the exhibits, though it must be borne in mind that to arrange afresh and set out collections amounting to many thousand specimens will occupy a considerable period of time.

As in the previous war-years, additions to the National Museum have been few and, on the whole, unimportant. The Church Token collection

has received the largest augmentation—thirty examples having been added. One relic of more than usual interest has, however, been presented, a small super-altar of close-grained sandstone, on one face of which are incised five consecration crosses. Such small slabs were in use in mediæval times to be consecrated by the bishop of a diocese and thereafter inset in the *mensa* of some distant altar requiring consecration, thus enabling the necessary rites to be carried out without the prelate being subjected to the dangers and discomforts of a lengthy journey across his diocese. Such slabs are very rare, there being only two others known in Scotland—one found at Coldingham, now in the National Museum, and the other recovered from the ruins of the church of Southdean in Roxburghshire. The thanks of the Society are due to Mr John Dunnet of Wick for having presented this relic to the National Museum.

It is the pleasing duty of the Council to announce another prospective acquisition of more than usual interest, viz. that of the Lamont Harp, from Mr W. Moir Bryce. This fine instrument, and the other ancient harp known as Queen Mary's Harp, were on view for a number of years in the Museum, until in 1904, on the sale of the Dalguise property, they were brought to auction. The Queen Mary Harp, as is well known, was purchased for the National Collection, but funds did not permit of the acquisition of the Lamont Harp. Fortunately it passed into the possession of that patriotic Scottish antiquary, Mr W. Moir Bryce, who has now generously intimated his gift of it to the National Museum. The late Mr Robert Bruce Armstrong, in his book on *The Irish and the Highland Harps*, refers to this instrument as an excellent specimen of the clarscha, also as an exceptionally fine example of the Highland harp. The family tradition of the Robertsons of Lude, to which family it pertained for centuries, bore that it was brought from Argyllshire by a daughter of the Lamont family on her marriage with Robertson of Lude in the year 1464.

*The Library.*—The number of books added to the library during the past year is 35 by donation and 10 by purchase. In addition, a considerable number of publications of learned societies, etc., have been received by way of exchange, and by subscription.

*The Rhind Lectureship.*—The Rhind Lecturer for the current year is Mr A. O. Curle, the Director of the Museum, whose subject will be "The Prehistoric Monuments of Scotland." Owing to the numerous duties imposed by the war, the lectures will not be delivered till March 1919.

*The Gunning Fellowship and the Chalmers-Jervise Bequest.*—Owing to the war, no grants have been made in respect of these during the year.

With the close of the Society's year there comes to an end the period of five years during which Lord Abercromby has occupied the post of President, and the Council feel that the occasion should not be allowed to pass without their paying a tribute to the self-sacrificing devotion which the retiring President has shown in the discharge of his duties. Regardless of his own convenience, he has never failed to take the Chair at the meetings either of the Society or of the Council, save on the occasions, happily rare, when sickness prevented him. His catholic interest in all matters pertaining to archæology, with knowledge on certain aspects of the science which rendered him an authority, fitted him admirably for a post which he has filled in a notable manner. It is eminently fitting that the grateful thanks of the Society should thus be rendered to him on his demitting office.

Signed on behalf of the Council,

ABERCROMBY.

Mr John Notman, F.F.A., Treasurer, made the annual statement of the Society's Funds, which was ordered to be printed and circulated among the Members; and, on the motion of the Chairman, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr Notman for his gratuitous services as Treasurer.

MONDAY, 9th December 1918.

PATRICK MURRAY, W.S., Vice-President, in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following were duly elected Fellows:—

Rev. JOHN F. MILLER, M.A., United Free Church Manse, Millerston,  
Glasgow.

HENRY PRIN, J.P., Helenbank, Longforgan, by Dundee.

The following Donations, received during the recess from 13th May to 30th November, were announced:—

(1) By Mr JOHN W. KING, 46 Moat Street.

Church Token of Caputh, 1842.

(2) By Mr JOHN ROBERTSON, 38 North Street, Inverurie.

Bearded Mask of green glazed pottery, showing a hand rudely fashioned at the lower part of the beard, part of a fourteenth-century pitcher,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in extreme length. Fragment of the base of a brown glazed vessel of pottery, with three contiguous thumb impressions. Both found at the foot of the Bass of Inverurie. (See subsequent communication by Mr. A. O. Curle.)

(3) By Mr J. BEAZER, Newfield House, Bonnyrigg.

First Brass of the Emperor Hadrian, found in an allotment at The Knowe, on the farm of Polton East Mains, Bonnyrigg.

(4) By THE KIRK SESSION OF DOLLAR.

Token of Dollar Church, 1830.

(5) By Mrs J. J. MACLEAN, St Giles Lodge, Inverness.

Church Tokens of:—Creich, Sutherland; Urquhart and Logie Wester, 1786; (?) Keith.

(6) By Mr JOHN DUNNET, 6 Grant Street, Wick.

Super-altar of close-grained sandstone, measuring superficially  $4\frac{1}{2}$   $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches and  $1\frac{1}{16}$  inch in thickness, bearing incised at the centre a cross with the arms expanded at the ends, formed by a single deeply incised line for the upper and lower arms, and by double lines for the side arms, and a

small incised cross in each angle. The central cross measures  $1\frac{3}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{4}$  inch. The stone is much worn, and all the angles are rounded off. It was recovered in dredging operations near Shaltigoe, on the south side of the Bay of Wick.

(7) By Mr THOMAS LITTLEWOOD, Auchmantle, New Luce, Wigtownshire.

Perforated Axe-hammer of whinstone,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, with a flat butt measuring  $3 \times 4$  inches, found on the farm of Laggansarroch, parish of Colmonell, Ayrshire.

(8) By Mr E. M'EWEN, 4 Dalblair Road, Ayr.  
Church Token of Newton-on-Ayr, 1780.

(9) By THE KIRK SESSION OF MUCKHART, through Miss Christie of Cowden, F.S.A.Scot.  
Tokens of Muckhart, 1848, and Dollar, 1700.

(10) By Mr A. Y. M'GILL, 56 Westholmes Gardens, Musselburgh.  
Segment of the rim, including the mouth, of a Roman Mortarium of red ware, bearing a potter's stamp complete in two lines on one side, and to the extent of one line only on the other; found on Inveresk Hill. The same stamp was found at Newstead, and has been found previously at Inveresk. (See *A Roman Frontier Post*, p. 266, fig. 35, No. 14.)

(11) By Dr T. WILSON PARRY, Belmont, Crouch End Hill, London, N.  
Photograph of a prehistoric trephined Cranium, dredged from the River Thames from a site just above the spot where Hammersmith Bridge now stands. A pile settlement occupied this position, implements of stone, bronze, and early iron having been dredged up. This specimen is now in the London Museum.

(12) By Captain CHARLES ERSKINE, Friarshall, Melrose.  
Bottle of dark green glass, probably dating from the early years of the eighteenth century, partially encrusted with worm tubes, drawn up in a fishing net in The Minch.

The Purchase was intimated of:—

Axe of indurated claystone,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length,  $1\frac{7}{8}$  inch in breadth across the cutting edge, and  $\frac{9}{16}$  inch in thickness, found at Evie, Orkney.



12 PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY, DECEMBER 9, 1918.

The following Donations of Books for the Library were also intimated:—

(1) By HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT.

Report of the Departmental Committee on Tinkers in Scotland. Edinburgh, 1918. 4to.

(2) By Rev. Canon G. F. TERRY, F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S., F.R.S., F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

Memorials of the Church of St John the Evangelist, Princes Street, Edinburgh. Edinburgh, 1918. Crown 8vo.

(3) By The Right Hon. LORD BALFOUR OF BURLEIGH.

Communion Tokens of the Church of Scotland. Collected by Colonel Montagu Campbell, D.S.O. Presented to the Church of Scotland by Lord Balfour of Burleigh and other friends. Crown 4to.

Communion Tokens of the Secession and other Churches. Collected by Colonel Montagu Campbell, D.S.O. Presented to the Church of Scotland by Lord Balfour of Burleigh and other friends. Crown 4to.

(4) By THE HONORARY SECRETARY, Hastings and St Leonards Museum Association, 15 Dane Road, St Leonards-on-Sea.

Catalogue of an Exhibition of European Peasant Art held at the Hastings Museum from 3rd January to 31st January 1918. Compiled by Cyril Davenport, V.D., F.S.A., and W. Ruskin Butterfield. Demy 8vo.

(5) By ROBERT MUNRO, M.A., M.D., LL.D., F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

Comparative Archæology: its Aims and Methods. Reprinted from the *Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society*, 23rd November 1917. Pamphlet.

(6) By THE CURATOR, Castle Museum, Norwich.

Report of the Castle Museum Committee to the Town Council, 1917. Pamphlet.

(7) By THE TRUSTEES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

A Catalogue of English Coins in the British Museum. The Norman Kings. By George Cyril Brooke, B.A. 2 vols. London, 1916. Royal 8vo.

(8) By Professor G. BALDWIN BROWN, F.S.A.Scot.

Der Reihengräberfund von Gammertingen. By I. W. Gröbbels, Direktor des fürstlich Hohenzollernschen Museums. Munich, 1905. Double royal folio.

(9) By W. AIRY, M.Inst.C.E., the Author.

On the Ancient Trade Weights of the East. Privately printed. Pamphlet.

(10) By Dr A. GUÉBHARD.

Commission d'Étude des Enceintes préhistoriques et Fortifications anhistoriques. Inventaires Bibliographiques des Enceintes de France. LVII.—Meuse. Rapport LXX.

Notes Brèves pour la Commission d'Étude des Enceintes préhistoriques, etc. By A. Guébard et L. Carias. Extrait du Bulletin de la Société Préhistorique Française. Tome xiv., pp. 428-432.

(11) By THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

Annual Report, 1914. 2 vols. (Vol. ii. containing General Index, 1884-1914.) Annual Report, 1915.

(12) By THOMAS SHEPPARD, M.Sc., F.G.S., Hull, the Author.

Bronze Age Weapons in the Doncaster Museum. Reprinted from *The Naturalist*, July 1918.

Bibliography: Papers and Records relating to the Geology and Palæontology of the North of England (Yorkshire excepted) published during 1917. From *The Naturalist* for May and June 1918.

(13) By THE CURATOR OF THE COLCHESTER MUSEUM OF LOCAL ANTIQUITIES.

Report of the Museum and Monument Committee for the two years ended 31st March 1918.

(14) By THE KING'S AND LORD TREASURER'S REMEMBRANCER.

Views of Elgin Cathedral. By William Clark. 1826. Folio.  
Plans and Elevation of Dunkeld Cathedral. 1812. Folio.

(15) By THE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA.

A Guide to Sanchi. By Sir John Marshall, Kt., C.I.E., etc. Calcutta, 1918. 8vo.

A Guide to Taxila. By Sir John Marshall, Kt., C.I.E., etc. Calcutta, 1918. 8vo.

List of Sanskrit and Hindi MSS. purchased by order of the Government and deposited in the Sanskrit College, Benares, during the year 1916-17. Allahabad, 1918. 8vo.

(16) By THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Autobiography of Thomas Raymond and Memoirs of the Family of Guise of Elmore, Gloucestershire. Edited for the Society by G. Davies, M.A., etc. London, 1917. 8vo.

Purchases of Books for the Library were announced:—

The Diocese and Presbytery of Dunkeld, 1660-1689. By the late Rev. John Hunter, B.D. 2 vols. London, n.d. Imperial 8vo.

Social Life in Britain from the Conquest to the Reformation. Compiled by G. G. Coulton, M.A. London, 1918. Demy 8vo.

Catalogue Illustré du Musée des Antiquités Nationales au Chateau de Saint-Germain-en-Laye. By Salomon Reinach. Tome I. Paris, 1917. Royal 8vo.

Scottish Record Society. Parts LXXX. and LXXXI. March 1918.

Register of Marriages of the City of Edinburgh, 1751-1800. Edited by Francis J. Grant, W.S. Brydone to Dick, pp. 97-192. Dick to Forrester, pp. 193-256.

Further Additions (1442-1859) and Corrections to an Inventory of Lamont Papers, with an Index. By Sir Norman Lamont of Knockdow, Bart., F.S.A.Scot.

The New Palæographical Society. Facsimiles of Ancient Manuscripts, etc. Series II., Part IV. London, 1918. Folio.

The following Communications were read:—

I.

DISCOVERY OF (1) A SHORT CIST CONTAINING HUMAN REMAINS AND A BRONZE ARMLET, AND (2) A CUP-MARKED STONE, AT WILLIAMSTON, ST MARTINS, PERTHSHIRE. BY J. GRAHAM CALLANDER. SECRETARY.

The parish of St Martins, a highly cultivated and well-wooded district, stretching between the river Tay and the lower slopes of the Sidlaw Hills, some five miles north of Perth, must have been inhabited by a considerable population during the Bronze Age, if we may judge by the surviving monuments and the discoveries of graves, within its bounds, which it is customary to assign to that period. Five, if not six, stone circles remain in a more or less dilapidated condition, and the site of another is noted on the Ordnance Survey map; five cup-marked stones are to be seen at, or near, their original sites, and a sixth, found in the parish, is preserved in our National Museum of Antiquities; a burial mound largely composed of earth, bearing the peculiar name of Tammyteethie, also survives. The ground is undulating, rising in many places in steep ascents from the level of the river towards the hills to the east, and it is drained chiefly by the St Martins burn, which, in its tortuous course, has cut deeply into the fluvial deposits and underlying Old Red Sandstone that occur all over the parish. As it is a tract of knoves and ridges and naturally well-drained slopes, with sheltered dens and hollows, in few places rising over the 400 feet level, it is not surprising that it should have been selected for human occupation by a people who had got beyond the mere hunting and pastoral stages, and were well acquainted with, and no doubt practised, the growing of grain.

The farm of Williamston, situated about one mile west-north-west of the parish church, has proved very rich in prehistoric remains, as the stone-circle site above mentioned lies some 230 yards north-west of the dwelling-house on the farm, Tammyteethie stands about 525 yards to the north-east, and the cup- and ring-marked stone in the museum was unearthed about 250 yards south-east-by-south of the same building.<sup>1</sup> In addition to these monuments, two ancient burial sites are mentioned on the Ordnance Survey map, the first noted as "Stone Cists found," lying in the same field as Tammyteethie, and the other as "Human Remains found," on a ridge south-east of the steading. On the field

<sup>1</sup> In the *Proceedings*, vol. xxiii. p. 142, it is stated that this stone was found 120 yards south of the steading, but the distance and the direction were wrongly estimated.

to the south of that in which Tammyteethie stands, but on the neighbouring farm, the map shows another record of "Stone Cists found" (fig. 1). The cup- and ring-marked stone was discovered by Mr Robert T. Bruce when a young man working on the farm of which his father was tenant, and whom he succeeded. As a boy he remembered the stone cists on Williamston being found. There were four or five of them, and he thought they were rather smaller than the short cist recently discovered,

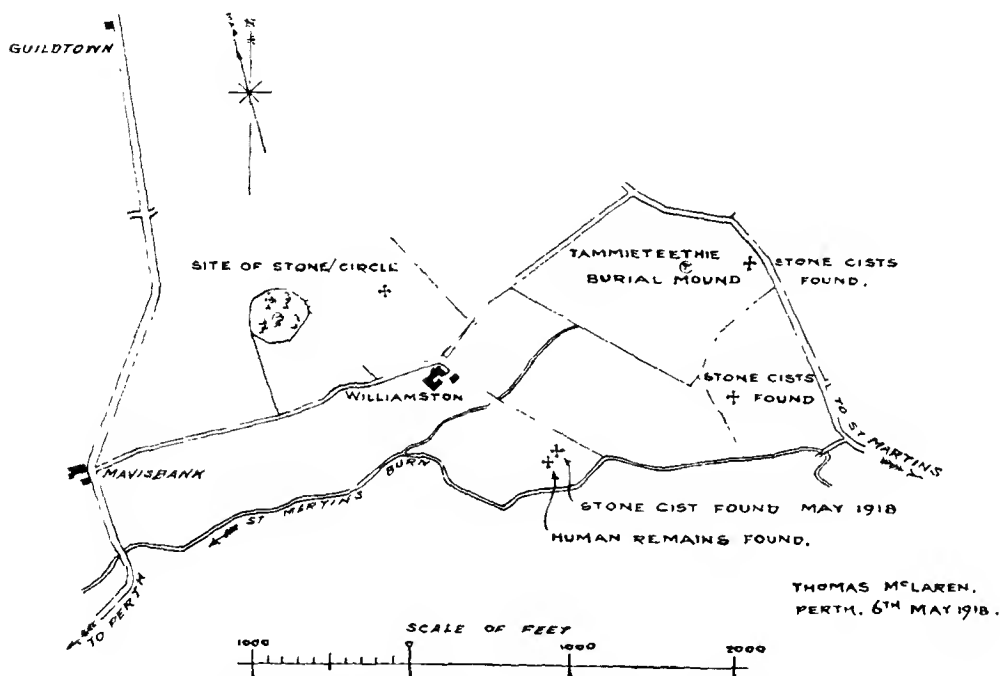


Fig. 1. Plan of Williamston Farm, St Martins, Perthshire, showing Site of Stone Cists.

but formed of slabs in the same way. Human remains were found in them, but no urns. Subsequent to these discoveries, another stone-lined grave was found in the same field, nearer to, and south of, Tammyteethie mound, but it was long and narrow, and consequently may have been of later date. The position where the human remains mentioned on the map were found is a very striking one, as it lies near the crest of a narrow ridge or spur which stretches out in a west-south-westerly direction towards a bend in the St Martins burn, and rises some 40 to 50 feet above its base, the summit being about 240 feet above sea-level. The south-eastern flank is specially steep for about two-thirds of its height, but

## A SHORT CIST AND A CUP-MARKED STONE AT WILLIAMSTON. 17

for the last 30 yards before the crest is reached the slope becomes quite easy. This higher declivity, facing the morning sun, was chosen by the ancient inhabitants as the site of more than one grave, as a second sepulchral deposit in the form of a short cist was discovered there in the spring of 1918. When the position of the first grave, as it is marked on the Ordnance map, is compared with that of the recently discovered cist, it is seen that the distance between them must have been a matter only of a few yards, if not feet.

On Saturday, 4th May, the discovery of the cist was made by James Donaldson through the teeth of the grubber which he was driving coming in contact with a large slab, one of the covering stones of the grave. The lower or eastern end was about 8 inches under the surface of the ground, and the higher or western end about 12 inches. The cist was opened and cleared out later in the day, when human remains and the fragment of a bronze armlet or bracelet were found within it. On Monday morning, Mr Bruce notified the discovery and sent the armlet to Mr Coates, Curator of the Perth Museum, who that afternoon visited the spot, accompanied by Mr Thomas McLaren and myself. We saw the place under very bad weather conditions, as it poured the whole time we were there. Although we were unable to sift the soil thrown out of the grave, we obtained a clear account of the circumstances attending the discovery and subsequent excavation, and secured complete measurements of the cist, as three of the walls still remained in position. We also recovered the osseous remains which survived, and picked up a second fragment of the armlet.

It was a typical short cist of the Bronze Age, formed of four thin slabs of dark brown, micaceous sandstone, set on edge (fig. 2). As the slab on the south side was rather short, a narrow slip of stone had been inserted to fill up the vacancy at the west end. The mouth had been closed with two cover stones, one superimposed upon the other. The longer axis lay almost east and west magnetic, in a line not parallel to the crest of the ridge, as might have been expected, but approaching the diagonal. It was placed about 10 yards from, and 3 feet lower than, the summit, some 250 yards south-east-by-east of the steading, and 27 yards south-west of the fence on the east side of the field. The internal measurements of the chamber were 2 feet 10 inches and 3 feet  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch along the north and south sides, 1 foot 11 inches and 1 foot  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches across the east and west ends, and from 1 foot 6 inches to 2 feet in depth, the side and end slabs varying from 2 inches to 3 inches in thickness. A squarish slab, measuring from 2 feet 6 inches to 2 feet 8 inches across, and 6 inches in thickness, formed the upper cover stone. It was placed diagonally over the grave resting on the lower cover, and its size was such that the corners would reach

just beyond the ends of the cist and project a few inches over the sides. The lower cover, which was broken to facilitate its removal, was oblong, and completely covered the mouth of the burial chamber. It measured 3 feet 9 inches in length, 2 feet 9 inches in breadth at the western end, which had not been broken, and 2 inches in thickness. After this stone

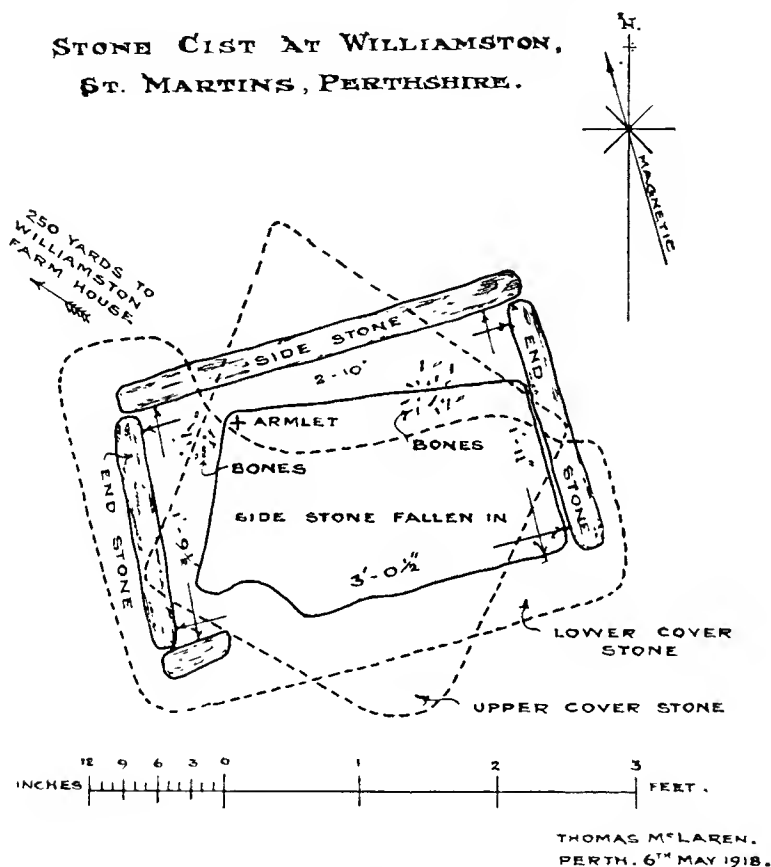


Fig. 2.

was removed and a quantity of sand thrown out of the grave it was seen that the slab on the south side had collapsed, falling inwards, probably at an early period. The larger portion of a bronze armlet was found lying on the top of the stone, close to the edge of what was now its north-west corner. Under the stone, embedded in sandy clay, were the remains of a human skeleton, lying along the northern side of the cist. The presumption is that the stone in its fall struck the arm of the skeleton on which the armlet had been placed, fracturing the bone and causing the armlet

to spring up on to the top of the slab. The skeletal remains, which were very fragile and much broken, were thrown out on to the edge of the excavation; but as they had been subjected to heavy rains during the week-end, as well as a visitation from crows, before our visit, very few fragments were recovered by us, and these were of small size. Nothing was observed that would indicate that the grave had contained an urn; but even had there been such a vessel, doubtless it would have been crushed completely by the fall of the stone. It was impossible to detect any traces of pottery amongst the soil removed from the cist when we saw it, as by that time it had become of the consistency of a mortar formed of sandy clay. One mass was noticed to contain several streaks and thin layers of a dark substance resembling charred wood. If we are right in our conjecture that the armlet had been allowed to remain on the arm of the corpse when it was buried, from the positions of the ornament and the skeleton, the former towards the north-west corner of the cist and the latter along the northern side of the chamber, the inference is that the body had been placed in the grave in a crouching position, on its right side, the head near the north-west corner facing the south, with the hands drawn up in front of the chest or neck.

The remains of the armlet consist of two pieces, which when placed end to end almost complete the circumference of the ring (fig. 3). No two of the fractures fit together, but the fragments are much corroded in places and slightly twisted. A glossy, bluish-green patina covers the greater part of the surface of the larger fragment. In its original condition the bracelet must have been a very fine ornament, displaying workmanship of a high quality. Of the two fragments, the larger, which consists of more than half the ring, is in the form of a thin, broad band, flat on the inside, and decorated on the exterior by three encircling, flattened cordons or mouldings, separated by hollows of a width equal to that of the raised parts, the edge of the mouldings being bordered by a row of small punctulations,  $\frac{1}{16}$  inch apart. The second fragment, besides being smaller, is in a worse state of preservation than the first; it extends only to about one-fourth of the circumference, and shows no more than a width of two cordons, with the greater part of the intermediate hollow worn away. When complete, the armlet had an internal diameter of about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and its greatest thickness is  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch. Although the width of the larger of the two fragments is  $\frac{3}{8}\frac{1}{2}$  inch, it does not form a complete section of



Fig. 3. Bronze Armlet from Williamston.



the ring, as one edge is broken off. It is quite clear that of the surviving cordons only one is a marginal moulding; it measures  $\frac{5}{64}$  inch in breadth, and bears no punctulations on the outer border. The other two are  $\frac{5}{32}$  inch in breadth, double the width of the first, and as the outer of these has a ragged edge and bears a punctulated line along its outer side, there is no doubt that, like its neighbour, it was one of the interior bands, and that at least one marginal moulding is amissing on this side. Such being the case, if we allow a width of  $\frac{5}{64}$  inch for the missing band, the same width as that on the opposite side, we find that the bracelet must have been almost exactly  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch in breadth. Of course, the missing

part may have been of a greater width, occupied by one or more mouldings in addition to the one on the edge, but I think this is unlikely, because no fragments of such a part were found. If this surmise is correct, the complete armlet would show four encircling bands, a narrow one on each edge and two broader ones between.

Discoveries of bronze armlets have been made so seldom in Scottish graves of the Bronze Age that any new record is of no little importance. Those found are usually of cylindrical section, flattened more or less on the inside, and seem to have been made by bend-



Fig. 4. Bronze Armlet from Melfort.

ing a bar of metal round in a circle and fitting the ends closely together, instead of casting them in complete annular form. Although this is the case, we know that rings of the latter type were made in Scotland during the early part of the Bronze Age, as a mould for casting flat bronze axes, found in Marnoch, Banffshire, also bears a matrix for making a ring of this class.<sup>1</sup> The only occurrence of the thin, broad type of armlet in a Scottish Bronze Age grave that I know of, is the pair discovered with a jet necklace in a cist at Melfort, Argyll<sup>2</sup> (fig. 4). One of these armlets was smashed up, but the other is nearly complete. Its breadth, 2 inches, is probably greater than that of the Williamston specimen before it was broken; it also differs from the latter in being slightly constricted round the middle instead of being flat, and in being ornamented with encircling

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. xxii. p. 369.

<sup>2</sup> Dr Anderson, *Scotland in Pagan Times: Bronze and Stone Ages*, p. 57.

parallel lines, and rows of lozenge-shaped projections beaten up from the inside, instead of simple raised bands. These, however, are only differences of detail and not of character. A closer parallel occurs in the pair of flat bronze armlets found at Migdale, Skibo, Sutherland, in a hoard of weapons and ornaments dating to the early Bronze Age, which amongst other relics contained buttons of jet, two flat bronze axes, and four pairs of plain bronze armlets convex on the exterior and flat on the inner side.<sup>1</sup> The flat armlets from this hoard are in an excellent state of preservation, and bear a marked resemblance to the Williamston example (fig. 5). Like it, their ornamentation consists of encircling flattened mouldings, with broad hollows between, but they have only three of these raised bands instead of at least four. The hollows on the Migdale rings show the

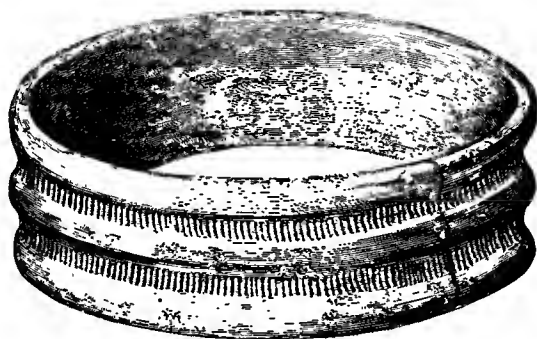


Fig. 5. Bronze Armlet from Migdale.

additional feature of being decorated with graved parallel lines, closely set together, perpendicular to the edges of the mouldings. These armlets are rather thicker, and are  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch broad, the same breadth as suggested for the bracelet under review, moreover they have the same internal diameter,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, which is also that of the Melfort example. Like the plain armlets with which they were found, the Migdale pair had a closely fitting joint. Owing to the imperfect condition of the armlet from Williamston it is impossible to say whether it had been fashioned in this way, but on the analogy of the Melfort bracelet it may easily have been cast in the round. This would entail a very delicate operation, and indicates what capable craftsmen were the metal-workers of Scotland during the Bronze Period. I think that even greater skill was required for the production of the Melfort armlet than for the manufacture of our finest bronze spear-heads, and many of these display technique of a very high standard.

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. xxxv. p. 269.

Although the circumstances attending the discoveries of the Williamson and Migdale cordoned armlets indicate that they belong to the Bronze Age, this type of ornament seems to have survived to considerably later times, as an armlet very similar to the latter example was found during the excavations carried out at the Roman fort at Cappuck, Roxburghshire<sup>1</sup> (fig. 6). This armlet, which was of bronze and measured  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter, was encircled with three cordons, the one in the middle being about half the width of those on the margins. It also showed a further resemblance in having a break in the ring. The carefully squared ends, however, in the Cappuck specimen were not fitted closely together when found, but were nearly  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch apart. From this it need not be inferred that the ring should be considered penannular, because from the way the ends are finished it is a reasonable presumption that they would be pressed closely together when clasped round the wrist.

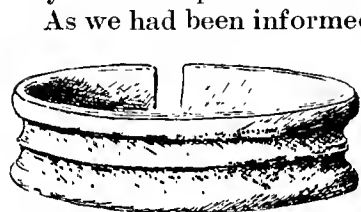


Fig. 6. Bronze Armlet from Cappuck.

As we had been informed, at the time of our first visit, that the plough had struck some other large stones below the surface, a few yards from the cist, we returned to the site on the afternoon of Saturday, 18th May, to make further investigations. Mr Bruce not only gave us permission to dig, although the field had been sown since our first visit, but he let us have the assistance of Donaldson, who had made the first discovery. Some 22 feet north-north-east of the cist, by the use of an iron probe, we located some fairly large stones, over an area about 6 or 8 feet broad. Digging was commenced at a place where several stones were felt closely grouped together, and at a depth of about 10 inches under the surface an irregular block of micaceous sandstone was immediately laid bare. Its upper surface was found to be cup-marked, eight of these carvings being counted after the stone had been cleaned (fig. 7). The block measures 2 feet 4 inches in extreme length, 1 foot 6 inches in breadth, and 8 inches in thickness, but evidently it is incomplete, as the fracture on one side cuts across a cup-mark. The cups vary from  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch to 3 inches in diameter, and the two largest are remarkable not only for the clean cutting which they exhibit, but for their depth, which is  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch; the smallest is  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch deep. Two of the cup-marks lying towards the centre of the stone are joined by a broad, shallow hollow, but possibly this feature may have been caused by the natural disintegration of the stone.

Immediately below the cup-marked stone was a rounded block of whinstone, about 2 feet in greatest diameter, with several others of

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. xlv. p. 474, fig. 11, No. 5.

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rather smaller size, embedded in the surrounding soil. Four or five of these stones, which showed no signs of having been placed in position, were removed, and the soil was cleared out of the cavity. At a depth of 2 feet 9 inches we came on the top of a block similar to those thrown out, but we did not lift it, as to excavate the site properly would have disturbed too great an area of turnip drills, and we did not care to trespass further on Mr Bruce's good nature. The soil thrown out in the course of this excavation had been disturbed at some previous time, as

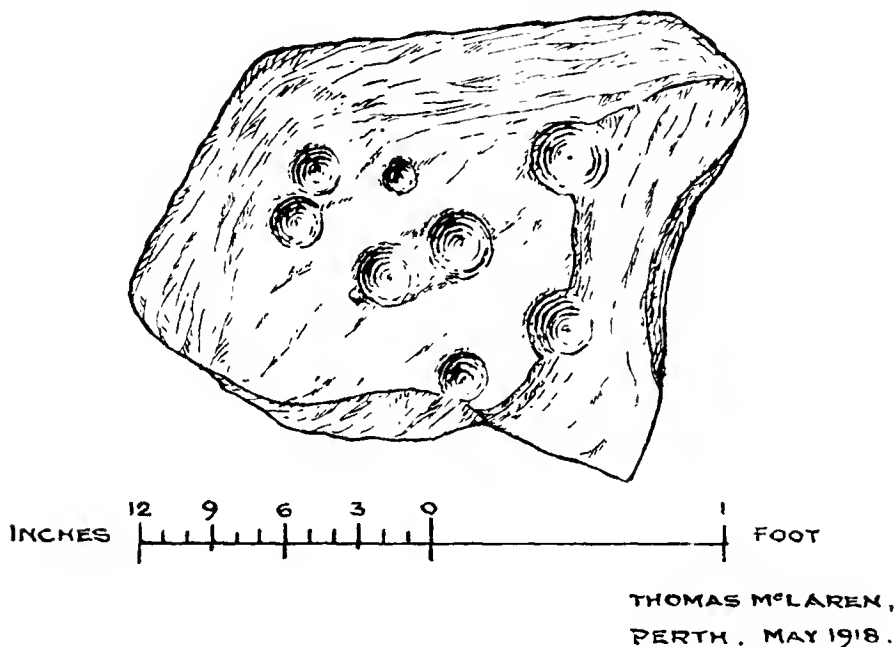


Fig. 7. Cup-marked Stone found at Williamston.

not only was it darker in colour than its surroundings, but it contained many fragments of charred wood, of which the largest, measuring  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch by  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, was found with a small piece of bone at the bottom of the cavity. Apparently we had happened to hit on the edge of the forced soil, as undisturbed red sub-soil was encountered immediately to the west of the boulders.

The cup- and ring-marked stone which was found near this spot, in 1888, is described as being only a portion of a larger slab. Although Mr Bruce was under the impression that it was unearthed about 20 yards to the south-west, it is quite possible that the two blocks fitted together may complete the original slab.

While probing the ground round about the spot where we got the cup-marked stone, the presence of other blocks was detected, and we hoped to be able to make further excavations later on. Circumstances have not permitted this to be done.

## II.

### COMMUNAL MORTARS IN THE PROVINCE OF CORDOBA (ARGENTINE REPUBLIC). BY G. A. GARDNER, F.S.A.Scot.

Throughout the north-western provinces of the Argentine Republic, wherever there are traces of ancient Indian settlements, there may be seen in the outcrops of rock which occur with frequency in these mountainous regions, numbers of cylindrical or cup-shaped holes. These are generally considered to have been communal or village mortars, and there is no doubt that they were used as such by the prehispanic tribes.

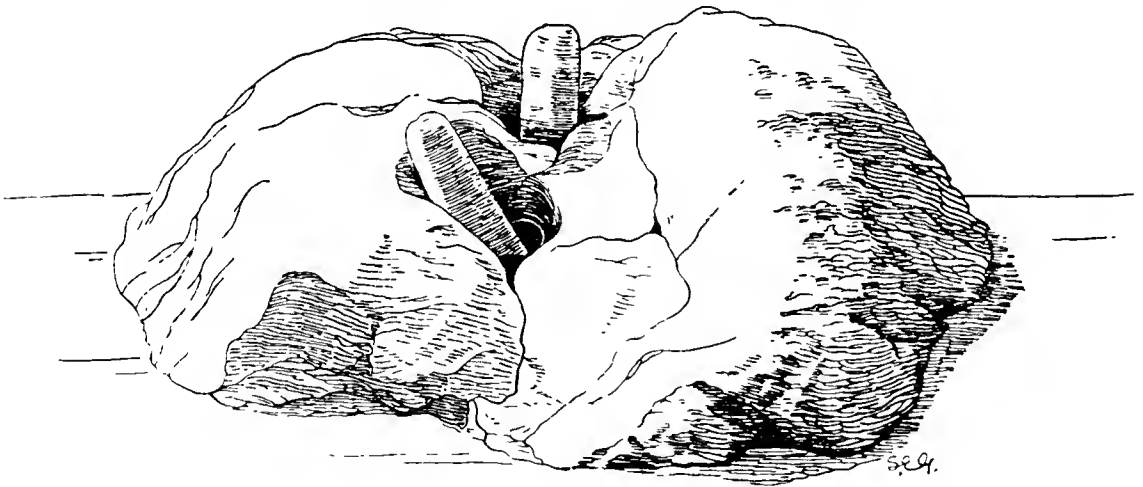


Fig. 1. Mortars with ancient Stone Pestles in them.

The heavy stone pestles employed are sometimes found in them (fig. 1), and the present inhabitants of the districts still use some of the mortars, replacing the ancient stone pestles with wooden ones (fig. 2). Their origin, however, is by no means clear, and presents a question of considerable interest.

In the province of Cordoba these mortars are situated in the neighbourhood of streams and mountain torrents sometimes on level

ground, but more frequently on the slopes of the surrounding hills. In addition to the mortars in the living rock there are to be found examples excavated in comparatively small, loose boulders, forming what may be considered a link between the small, portable domestic mortars and the groups of fixed communal ones.

The larger outcrops of rock contain mortars varying in number from

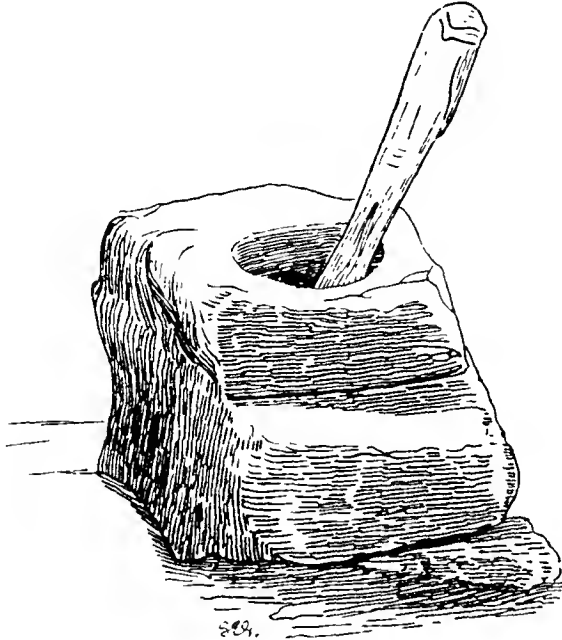


Fig. 2. Mortar with modern Wooden Pestle.

two to ten. One such group examined, consisting of seven mortars, was in a flat bed of decomposing granite at the top of a steep path leading up from a stream, and which at one time might have been the course of a tributary torrent (fig. 3). In a ridge of granite running down towards the upper course of the same stream seventeen mortars were observed, ten in the lower part of the ridge and seven in the upper (fig. 4). Many of the mortars were firmly packed with earth and overgrown with small plants. From one of them eight fragments of an ancient earthenware bowl were removed with the earth, and in others were small pieces of pottery and quartz scrapers. A neolithic settlement was afterwards discovered near this ridge, and the mortars no doubt had been used by the inhabitants.

The smaller masses of rock seldom contain more than one mortar,

although there are notable exceptions. In a dome-shaped rock, for instance, were found eight mortars, three in the more level part, and five in the steep side of the rock, forming as it were pockets.

The three on the level were so close together that they almost merged into one another. Two of them were of a curious funnel shape, unlike any of the other mortars examined.

As regards the mortars in general, they vary from hardly perceptible circular depressions to well-defined cup- or crucible-shaped holes



Fig. 3. Flat Bed of decomposed Granite containing Mortars.

measuring from 60 mm. to nearly 400 mm. in depth, and from 130 mm. to 350 mm. in diameter. In a few cases the openings of the cupules were distinctly oval in shape. Many of them have a smooth depression at one side forming a kind of lip, and where two mortars are found side by side such a lip often forms a shallow channel between them. There is apparently no relation between the diameters and the depths. One cupule, for example, with a depth of 340 mm., has a diameter of 195 mm., while another of the same depth has a diameter of 260 mm.

It has been stated that the artificial origin of these mortars is beyond all doubt. This statement, unsupported as it is by any argument, may be

disputed. The irregular and capricious grouping of the cupules led me to consider whether they might not have had a natural origin before being utilised, as they undoubtedly were, by the primitive inhabitants of the region for grinding their grain.

Their position in the close vicinity of running water suggested the possibility of their being small "pot-holes," and the appearance of many of them favoured this theory. Again, as already mentioned, a prominent feature of many of the cupules is a smooth depression or lip, nearly always on the



Fig. 4. Granite Ridge containing Mortars.

lower side of the orifice, and strongly conveying the impression of having been caused by water constantly flowing over the edge. To some of the mortars, however, this theory seems inapplicable. In the first place, many of them are situated on the crests of ridges, and, secondly, in several cases the cracked and angular appearance of the rocks in which they lie does not in any way suggest the action of water. Another cause must therefore be sought if the purely artificial origin of the mortars be doubted. This may be found in the character of the rock, either granite or gneiss, which in some parts shows a marked tendency to split in such a way as to leave angular hollows, and in others to decompose, the surface



peeling off in patches, leaving shallow, cup-like depressions underneath. Such depressions were frequently noted in decaying granite, in shape exactly similar to the depressions that have been considered as the beginnings of mortars, with the only difference that instead of being smooth and polished as from rubbing, the interior surface was rough and friable, showing the successive edges of the crusts of rock which had been broken away by the action of the weather. Possibly when natural water-worn cupules were not available use may have been made of such depressions, with the result that they gradually deepened and assumed their present symmetrical shapes. Finally, it seems only natural to suppose that were the mortars of entirely artificial origin they would have been more conveniently placed than many of them are, and in a more regular manner. In several of the groups the mortars are so arranged that simultaneous work at them all would be difficult, if not impossible.

As to one use to which the cupules were put there can be no reasonable doubt. They served, as many of them do to this day, for grinding maize or other grain, but it is possible that some of them may have had a sacrificial use. for, in a defile of the Cordillera to the north-east of Valdivia, is a block with cupules known as the *Piedra Santa de Retricura*, where the Araucanian Indians make offerings for the success of their journey when they go from Chile to Patagonia.

MONDAY, 13th January 1919.

GEORGE MACDONALD, C.B., F.B.A., LL.D.,  
in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following were duly elected:—

*Fellows.*

ALEXANDER GRAHAM DONALD, M.A., F.F.A., 5 Craighouse Terrace.  
WILLIAM DONALD, Flower Bank, Prestwick.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were announced:—

(1) By Miss ROLLO, 15 Albany Street.

Cup of Lambeth Delft Ware,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches in height, found in the back green of 15 Albany Street in 1918, at a depth of 4 feet below the surface.

(2) By THE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA.

The Astronomical Observatories of Jai Singh. By G. R. Kaye. Calcutta, 1918. Imperial 4to.

(3) By the DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WALES.

Eleventh Annual Report (1917–18), presented by the Council to the Court of Governors. Cardiff, 1918.

(4) By Major T. M. ALLISON, R.A., M.C.T., Member of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Antiquarian Society, 59th General Hospital, B.E.F., France, the Compiler.

Genealogical Tree to illustrate the connection between Normandy and the Royal line of Scotland—through the de Brus or Bruce Family.

(5) By EDWIN HANSON FRESHFIELD, M.A., F.S.A., Juniper Hill, Reigate, the Author.

Cellæ Trichoræ and other Christian Antiquities in the Byzantine Provinces of Sicily, with Calabria and North Africa, including Sardinia. Vol. II. Privately printed, 1918. Royal 8vo.

- (6) By T. J. WESTROPP, M.A., M.R.I.A., 115 Strand Road, Sandymount, Dublin, the Author.

Five Large Earthworks in the Barony of Shelburne, Co. Wexford. Reprint from the *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland*, vol. xlviii., Part 1.

- (7) By THE NATIONAL ART-COLLECTIONS FUND.

Facsimile of the last letter of Mary Queen of Scots, addressed to her brother-in-law Henry III., King of France, on the night before her execution at Fotheringay Castle, 8th February 1587. 1918. Crown folio.

- (8) By NINIAN HILL, 3 Murrayfield Avenue, the Author.

The Story of the Scottish Church from the Earliest Times. Glasgow, 1919. 8vo.

The following Communications were read:—

## I.

### OLD PARLIAMENT HALL. EDINBURGH: STATUES OF JUSTICE AND MERCY. By THOMAS ROSS, LL.D., F.S.A.Scot.

These statues, with the accompanying carved stones, were found in August 1909 in the back garden of No. 37 Drummond Place; and after some negotiations with the proprietor they were purchased by the Faculty of Advocates. The two figures, with the stone containing the city arms, have been placed within the old Parliament Hall; while the pediment stone with the open-arched crown surmounted by a cross, and having the date 1636, has been placed over a doorway in the new piazza.

The aspect of the old Hall was entirely changed about 1824, when the present front was erected over the new projecting piazza. The old handsome doorway<sup>1</sup> was taken down, and, with all its adornments, was carted as rubbish to a villa at Trinity; on the death of the proprietor of this villa, the whole details were procured by Mr A. G. Ellis, W.S., a well-known collector of antiquities, and a member of this Society, who in 1829, and onwards for thirty years, was in possession of 37 Drummond Place. The late John Hutchison, sculptor, R.S.A., told me that in his youth he frequently visited Mr Ellis's house, and was greatly impressed with the objects of antiquarian interest he saw there.

The figures are about 5 feet 6 inches high, and are each cut out of a single block of freestone, probably obtained from some quarry to the

<sup>1</sup> See Daniel Wilson, *Memorials of Edinburgh*, 2nd edition, p. 99.



Statues of Justice and Mercy, with other carved stones, as they stood at Drummond Place.

west of Edinburgh. Justice holds in her left hand the handle from which the metal scales, now lost, were suspended; the right hand is broken off, but is preserved. The hair is bound with laurel leaves, and on her brow there is a star-shaped jewel; another square-shaped one on her breast, having a centre setting, is suspended from a double necklace. A belt tightly worn round the waist is secured by an ornamented clasp with a human face carved on the front, and a trefoil knot above. The attribute of Mercy is symbolised by the other statue holding her crown against her heart—the seat of pity and compassion. The crown, decorated with laurel leaves, was supported beneath by both hands; the right hand, unfortunately, like that of Justice, is broken off. She has a circlet of leaves round her forehead, with faded traces on her brow. Her long dishevelled hair flowing down her breast and back in disorderly folds indicates the passion with which Mercy pleads her cause.

The Rev. R. Scott Mylne, in his valuable work, *The Master Masons of Scotland*, states that these statues were sculptured by Alexander Mylne, who was born in Perth in 1613. His father, John Mylne, was a well-known architect and builder, who held the appointment of Master Mason to the Crown from Charles I. The father came to Edinburgh in 1616, on the invitation of the Town Council, to sculpture a statue of James VI. proposed to be erected on the Nether Bow Port, and to superintend other works. Within three months of his arrival there is a payment made to Mr Mylne for the stones from Inverleith for the "King's portrait." This portrait of James probably exists somewhere; and the circumstance reminds me that there is, within a few minutes' walk of Perth Railway Station, a medallion portrait built into a comparatively modern house, which has a suspicious look of being a portrait of James, and possibly made by John Mylne.

Alexander assisted his father and his elder brother John in the making of the sundial at Holyrood; and in 1635 he was paid £200 Scots for making the King's arms for the doorway of this hall. This stone is now lost. We may suppose that he executed the work of the Edinburgh arms on the stone found at Drummond Place, to which reference has already been made. In 1637, in his twenty-fourth year, he was paid £266, 13s. 4d. for carving the statues of Justice and Mercy. Alexander Mylne died suddenly in the thirtieth year of his age, in 1643, when one of the frequent plagues was raging in Edinburgh; he was buried in the north transept of Holyrood, where a monument was erected to his memory. This was subsequently removed and set up on the north-east outside corner of the nave, where it may still be seen. It contains a Latin inscription with a translation intimating that what ancient masters "could have done in Brass or Paintry hee could that in stone."

The Rev. Thomas Morer, minister of St Ann's-within-Aldersgate, when he was chaplain to a Scotch regiment in 1689, visited Scotland. He writes:<sup>1</sup> "The Pride of Edinburgh is the Parliament-Yard or Close as they call it, in the midst whereof is the effigies of King Charles II. on horseback; a well-proportioned figure of stone." (This is a mistake.) "The Yard is square and well paved, beautified with good buildings round about it; and the only fault is, that it is no bigger, the height of the houses bearing no correspondence to the dimensions of the area." This has reference to the high houses, known as the *babes*, occupying the east side of the square—the highest houses in Edinburgh. Morer continues: "Its western boundary is the Parliament House, a large room and high roofed. Over the entrance is the Scotch arms with Mercy and Truth on each side, like two supporters, and this inscription—*Stant his Felicia Regna*—These vertues make Kingdoms happy. Under the arms was, *Unio Unionum*, 'The union of unions'—meaning not only the union of the two kingdoms, but that to the uniting of kingdoms good advice is necessary, which is the business of that place." This stone with the Scotch arms, as already mentioned, was not in the *find* of stones at Drummond Place. Morer continuing says: "The northern boundary is the wall of the High Church (St Giles), which, with a few shops joining to it (leaving room for coaches to pass to the Parliament House) concludes the figure of this close, the beauty of their city."

Thirty-seven years before Morer's visit, the Commissioners of the Commonwealth Parliament, sitting at Dalkeith, ordered tradesmen to take down the royal arms from the King's seat in St Giles and from the Market Cross. This was done with the utmost indignity, and Nicoll adds:<sup>2</sup> "The same day (Saturday, 7th February 1652) the lyke was done at the entrie of the Parliament House and Nether Bow, quhair the King's airmes or portrat wes found; defacing and dinging down all there momentis and curious ensignes."

<sup>1</sup> *Early Travels in Scotland*, p. 280, P. Hume Brown.

<sup>2</sup> Nicoll's *Diary*, Ban. Club, p. 51.

## II.

## THE DOUNE OF INVERNOCHTY. By W. DOUGLAS SIMPSON.

## ABERDEEN.

The Doune of Invernochty is a very conspicuous mound situated at the confluence of the Nocht water with the Don, nearly 45 miles from its mouth at Old Aberdeen. Immediately opposite, on the south bank of the Don, stands the parish kirk of Strathdon; and all around the valley of the main stream and wild Glen Nocht are closed in by wooded and heath-clad summits.

Geologically the Doune seems to be purely a natural feature, and probably originated under the same circumstances as the well-known Bass of Inverurie. Like the latter mound, however, it has at an early period been converted into a place of strength, and the earthworks with which it is surrounded have completely altered its dimensions and outline. Later, upon the stronghold thus formed was erected a mediæval castle in stone and lime, the remains of which are still visible on the summit of the mound, though a complete plan of its dispositions could be obtained only by excavation.

Brief descriptions of the Doune are given by a number of the local topographers, notably in Dawson's notes to the poem "Don" (1805), in Laing's *Donean Tourist* (1828), in the Old and New Statistical Accounts (1794 and 1842), and in Jervise's *Epitaphs and Inscriptions* (1875). In none of these, however, is a scientific account of the earthworks attempted, and all are unaccompanied by a plan. The present brief article is an attempt to remedy an important deficiency in the literature of the early Scottish castles.

The mound (see plan and section, fig. 1) is oval in shape, the long axis lying from north-west to south-east. The summit has been surrounded by a wall 6 feet thick, placed on the edge of the scarp. Its foundations are complete all round the enceinte, and the circumference, measured along the centre of the wall, is 604 feet. The enclosure within measures 247 feet by 127. At the main gate at the south-east end the wall remains for a length of about 49 feet and a height of about 2 feet 9 inches. The gate is represented by a ragged gap, 8 feet wide, the jambs having been removed. The east end of the wall here has a finished return, and a gap of about 11 feet intervenes before the foundations of the east wall of the enceinte are reached. Owing to the fragmentary nature of the remains, it is difficult to make out the dispositions at this point, but probably the gap represents a sally port to a slight prominence of the terreplein which

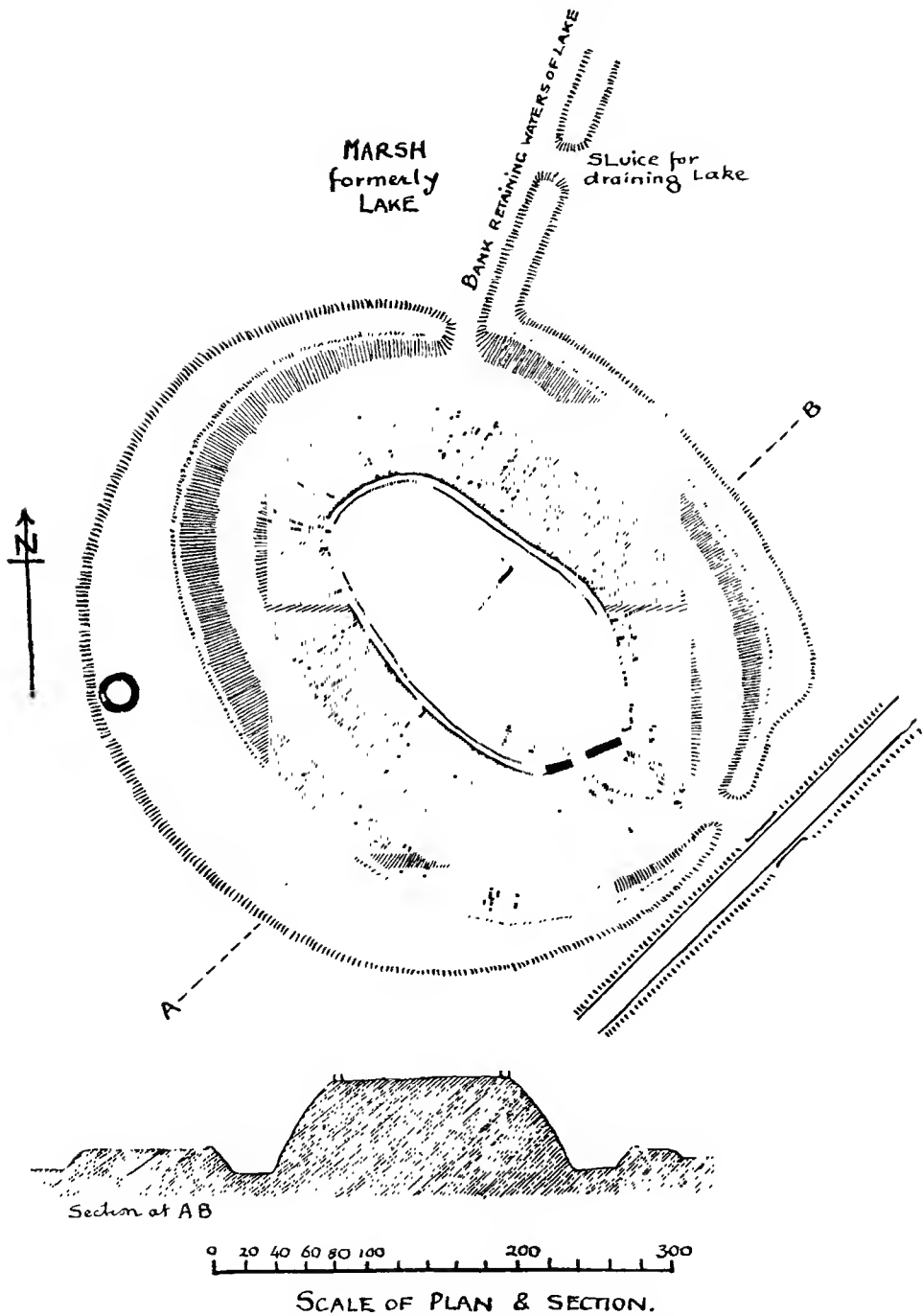


Fig. 1. Plan and Section of the Doune of Invernochty.



extends outside the enceinte here. If palisaded, this spot would form a useful forework or barbican for flanking the gateway. There is no trace of a check at the return.

The approach to the entrance is carried diagonally up the mound from the east, partly, no doubt, to secure a manageable gradient, but more especially in order to permit of the whole ascent being effectively covered from the curtain wall and the forework. Within the entrance, a sunk path, 36 feet in length, bears to the left, and at its far end a rectangular enclosure, 19 feet by 27, is entered—evidently the foundations of an apartment, possibly a guard-room. Jervise, writing in 1875, states that this apartment had been excavated a few years before.<sup>1</sup>

The surface of the mound covers an area of perhaps half an acre. From the main gate there is a somewhat steep ascent to a ridge about 40 feet broad, which traverses the summit at a distance of about 80 feet from the gate. Beyond this ridge the terreplein descends very gradually to the postern. All over the enclosure, sundry banks, hollows, and levelings-up indicate the site of buildings whose foundations must be extant immediately beneath the turf. Seen in the late evening of a beautiful July day, when the setting sun flooded the length of the mound with his golden rays, these lines of foundations stood out with most arresting distinctness, and greatly whetted the desire that the mystery of this ancient fortress should be resolved by use of the spade. The only fragment of masonry which now appears above the surface is a small bit of wall, 11 feet in length and 2 feet thick and about 1 foot in height, as shown on plan. At the east end of this wall traces of a return to the north are visible, and in the other direction the foundations of the wall are continued for some distance as a mound of turf.

The postern at the north-west end is a mere gap in the wall, 4 feet wide; a path thence leads straight down the mound. The descent is so steep that the postern can clearly have been only for use on occasions of emergency.

Very remarkable and interesting are the outworks of the fortress. The mound is about 60 to 65 feet in height, and its base measures 967 feet in circumference. It rises from within a moat varying from 22 to 32 feet in width, with an average of 25 feet. Its mean depth is about 60 feet, but it is somewhat shallower on the east side, where the depth at some places is no more than 11 feet, owing to the level of the ground outside being lower here. At the main entrance the moat appears to have been spanned by a bridge, as Jervise records an oaken plank having been dug up here.

The earth excavated from this moat has been thrown outwards all

<sup>1</sup> *Epitaphs and Inscriptions*, vol. i. pp. 154-155.

round to form a berm or raised platform, round whose inner circumference, on the lip of the counterscarp, is a narrow mound or ridge, probably to carry a palisade. On the east side this berm is 10 feet broad at the north end, and increases gradually to 25 feet at the south-east corner, after which it decreases in width very rapidly towards the south end. On the west side the berm, thin at both ends, is very greatly expanded at the middle to form a crescentic level platform of 74 feet in greatest width, and raised about 8 or 9 feet above the surface of the surrounding fields. Evidently this platform had served as an outer bailey to the fortress, and was probably set apart chiefly for the use of the livestock, which the palisade in its inner side would restrain from entering the moat. Jervise states that here "traces of a number of huts are visible, in which possibly the retainers of the ancient lords of the fort and their animals were housed." These remains are still faintly visible, but have been much obliterated in recent years. The small dimensions of the bailey, when compared with the mound, are probably to be accounted for by the unusual size of the area on top of the latter, which would give room for all the subsidiary buildings that, in fortresses of this description, are usually reserved for the outer enclosure.

The arrangements for filling the moat are well contrived and of great interest.

To the north and north-west of the fortress spreads an extensive marsh, still soggy in the driest weather. Through this marsh trickles the Bardoch, a tiny runnel which descends the high ground to the north and, skirting the east side of the Doune, enters the river Don a little above the confluence of the Nocht. At the end of the eighteenth century, according to the *Old Statistical Account*,<sup>1</sup> the stream entered the moat at the north-west corner and divided into two portions, which flowed one round each side of the Doune and united at the south-east corner. The present course of the stream is largely artificial.

From the north-east corner of the berm a huge bank, 15 feet broad on top and 150 yards in length, runs straight across the swamp to the high ground bordering on the Nocht. Evidently this bank was designed as a dam to retain the waters of the swamp, so that the whole area now covered by the marshy ground must thereby have been converted into a lake. Immediately west of the mound there is a gap or sluice, 19 feet broad, in the berm, through which the moat was filled from the lake. At the opposite end of the moat another sluice carried off the water into the Don. And at a distance of 90 feet along the bank there is a third sluice, 30 feet wide, whose purpose, unless indeed it is a modern cutting, must have been to drain off the water of the lake at will into the

<sup>1</sup> Vol. xiii. p. 181.

Nochty. It is on record in Jervise's notes that there was still water in the moat when the turnpike road was made in 1823.

The whole of these works—moat, berm, outer bailey, bank, and sluices—exhibit a high degree of proficiency in military engineering, and are remarkable for the exceeding freshness and distinctness of their outlines. The exterior fortifications are everywhere completely commanded from the top of the mound; even its base in the ditch must have been visible from the allure on the curtain, and there is not a single piece of "dead" ground in the whole fortress.



Fig. 2. The Doune of Invernochty: view from north.  
(Reproduced from *Picturesque Donside* by kind permission of the Manager of  
*The Aberdeen Daily Journal*.)

Niched into the western slope of the bailey is a well or cistern (see view from north, fig. 2). It is 14 feet in diameter, and is surrounded by a drystone wall 2 feet thick and 7 in height, in which, on the west side, is a door 5 feet wide. The interior is now choked up and dry, and the wall in a very ruinous condition. It is doubtful if the well has any claims to antiquity, and the wall surrounding it is, in all probability, a comparatively modern structure erected to prevent beasts fouling the water.

The age of these very remarkable earthworks is written with tolerable clearness in their technical characteristics. The whole is an unmistakable example of that type of structure known to modern antiquaries as a "mount-and-bailey fortress," or by the name its builders gave it as a "mote." Such fortresses are now ascertained to have been the original

strongholds which the Norman invaders under William the Conqueror threw up to secure the land of which they had taken seisin on the stricken field of Senlac. They are common in Normandy, and are represented in several places on the Bayeux Tapestry. In all cases they are earlier than the "great towers" of stone which came into general use at the beginning of the twelfth century, and of which London, Colchester, and Malling are the earliest English examples, having been commenced under the Conqueror. Half a century ago it was the universal belief that the Conqueror covered England with stone castles, and in the most unreflecting manner it was believed that Scotland was treated in the same way. In Scotland, Norman keeps in stone are not found; here the mottes or mount-and-bailey fortresses remained in use from the advent of the early Norman settlers under David I. to the beginning of the thirteenth century, when they began to be succeeded by that elaborate type of stone castle which during the hundred years had been evolved south of the Border from the old "great towers" and shell-keeps, with their baileys and curtain walls. The leading characteristic of the new type of fortress is the high wall, flanked by strong towers and enclosing a courtyard; no better or more complete example can be found in Scotland than the great castle of Kildrummy, about 8 miles further down the Don from Invernochty.

The earthworks of the Doune may therefore be safely assigned to some period in the twelfth or early thirteenth century. The handiwork of the great master race of mediæval Europe is written upon its banks and ditches in letters which he who runs may read, and there is nothing about the structure which can be assigned to an earlier date. The lordship of Strathdon, of which the Doune of Invernochty was the chief messuage, was one of the territorial divisions of the great earldom of Mar, but almost nothing is known of its history during the very remote period in which the earthworks of the Doune took origin. It is probable, however, that some light may be thrown upon the question by a general consideration of the history of the earldom during the period—so far as this is preserved by the very scrappy contemporary records.

The primitive Earls of Mar, so far as we may judge from their recorded acts, appear to have been little more than independent chieftains, having scant connection with the central authority. Ruadri, mormaer and first Earl of Mar, "gives consent" to the foundation charter of the Abbey of Scone by Alexander I. in 1120; a few charters issued by his successors are confirmed by the royal seal; Gilchrist, the third earl, actually contests the claim of William the Lion to Aberchirder Kirk, and grants it to the Abbey of Arbroath; and, altogether, the few items of information preserved about these early magnates suggest that they owned but

slender allegiance to the Crown. Moreover, in the great dispute which raged between Duncan, fifth Earl of Mar, and Thomas Durward of Coull, who claimed part of his lands, it can be demonstrated that Alexander II. supported the latter, "with the aim," as one historian very significantly puts it, "of breaking up this old Celtic earldom."<sup>1</sup>

But with the advent of William, sixth Earl of Mar, about the year 1245, all this is changed. Unlike any of his predecessors, Earl William was a great public personage, who held many important posts and played a prominent part in the national transactions of his day. Thus he is mentioned as one of the chief nobles of the kingdom in the negotiations which led up to the famous treaty of Newcastle in 1244: he was appointed Regent during the minority of Alexander III., was ousted through English influence in 1255, but was reinstated in 1257. In 1252, and again from 1263-1266, he was Grand Chamberlain, and in the last-mentioned year held joint command of the army which annexed the Hebrides after the battle of Largs. In 1258 he was signatory to a treaty with the Welsh Prince Llewellyn, whereby the high contracting parties pledged each other not to make peace with Henry III. except by mutual consent. During the extremely delicate diplomatic situation of 1262, when the Scottish Queen, then on a visit to her father, Henry III., in London, was expectant of an heir, Mar was one of the great barons to whom the English King plighted troth for the safety of the child. Earl William lived to a great age, and died in 1273. In every respect he was one of the foremost nobles of his time; and no Earl of Mar before him, and none for many years after—till the days of Alexander Stewart, the hero of Harlaw—wielded anything like his power. The charters extant under his name prove that his control of the affairs in his own district was as efficient as the hold which he exercised on the counsels of the nation.

During the time of Earl Duncan, father of William, an event of cardinal importance in the history of Donside took place, in the erection of the great fortress of Kildrummy, which ultimately became the chief seat of the earldom of Mar. This famous castle was built, as we are told by the historian of the Sutherland family, by Gilbert de Moravia, Bishop of Caithness and Treasurer for the north of Scotland during the period 1223-1245. The castle occupies a very important strategic situation, and formed one of a chain of holds which in mediæval times garrisoned the great route northward from Forfarshire over the "Mounth"—others on the line being Brechin, Kincardine, Loch Kinnord, Strathbogie, Rothes, Elgin, Duffus, Blervie, Inverness, and Dunskaith, all of which were in existence during the thirteenth century. Following the usual practice of the Middle Ages, the Crown entrusted the wardenship of the castle to the local

<sup>1</sup> Mackintosh's *Historic Earls and Earldoms of Scotland*, p. 20.

magnate in whose territory it was built, and thus it came in effect to be the chief seat of the Earl of Mar: but all through its history Kildrummy remained essentially a royal fortress, and the Earl had to make it over when required for the use of the King. The building of the castle completed the process of "Normanising" the old Celtic earldom, and capturing it for the interest of the Crown: and the result is plainly seen in the greatly enhanced importance of Earl William.

It appears not improbable, having regard to all the circumstances, that the Doune of Invernochty was erected in the days of the "Normanisation" of the Mar earldom, possibly by Earl Duncan, whose dates are about 1228-1244. It may quite well have been the headquarters of the earldom in the days before the Castle of Kildrummy was reared, in a more important strategical situation, and with a national end in view, by the great ecclesiastical statesman. On the erection of Kildrummy the Doune would probably be abandoned, a circumstance which might be held to account for the utter absence of recorded history connected with a fortress of such evident consequence during the stormy periods of the War of Independence and the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

The only specific mention of the place which the writer has been able to detect in the mediæval records occurs under the year 1507. On 8th August<sup>1</sup> of that year James IV. granted a large portion of the earldom of Mar—then held by the Crown—to Alexander Elphinstone of that Ilk, who became the first of the Elphinstone lords of Mar—his descendants remaining in possession until 1626, when, after a most protracted lawsuit, they were ousted by the Erskines, the representatives of the old Celtic stock. The lands thus granted were constituted into the barony of Invernochty, and it is stated that the chief messuage of this barony was *apud antiquam maneriem de Invernochty*, "at the ancient manor house of Invernochty," where seisin was formally taken.<sup>2</sup> As the lands in question were widely scattered through the earldoms of Mar and Garioch, Elphinstone resigned the whole into the hands of the King, and an excambion was arranged of all territories which lay outwith the lordship of Strathdon. The grant was thereupon renewed in the new terms by James on 10th December 1507,<sup>3</sup> and Elphinstone was designated of Invernochty: but on the 19th July 1508,<sup>4</sup> the King made a further large grant of the Mar lands to him, including the custody of the royal castle of Kildrummy. The Mar title, together with what remained of the estates, continued with the Crown. On the 14th January 1510, the whole of the lands which had been granted by the King to Lord Elphinstone were incorporated

<sup>1</sup> *Registrum Magni Sigilli*, vol. xiv., No. 376.

<sup>2</sup> *Antiquities of the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, vol. iv. p. 739.

<sup>3</sup> *Registrum Magni Sigilli*, vol. xiv., No. 427.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. xv., No. 14.

into the free barony of Kildrummy, with the castle of Kildrummy as chief messuage. The service under which the wardenship of the royal stronghold was entrusted to Elphinstone in this charter is interesting. It is to be held "of the King and his successors in feu and heritage for ever freely," the service required being "a hundred mounted men with lances for service in the King's wars and military operations against his enemies if any such should arise in future" (*et sustinebunt nobis et successoribus nostris centum homines suffultos cum lanceis ad faciendum seruicium nobis in nostris guerris et exercitibus contra nostros inimicos si quos tempore futuro fieri contigerint*).<sup>1</sup> A charter in confirmation of the foregoing, dated 12th August 1513,<sup>2</sup> adds to the grants the advowson (*advocatio*) of the church of Invernochty and frees Lord Elphinstone from the service of spearmen.

In its original state the earthworks of the Doune would be crowned by that type of wooden fortalice which the early Normans designated a "brattice." The brattice consisted of a stout palisading on the summit of the mote, within which were the hall and other buildings of the castle, all of timber. Such a fortress is well represented in the mote-castles of Dinan, Hastings, and Rennes, in the Bayeux Tapestry, and in the celebrated description of Merchem Castle by Jean de Colmieu, quoted in Clark's work. This vivid word-picture gives us an exact description of the appearance which the Doune of Invernochty must have presented in the early thirteenth century. The old Norman-French writer tells us that it had been the custom of the nobles in his land "to heap up a mound of earth as high as they were able, and to dig round it a broad, open, and deep ditch, and to girdle the whole upper end of the mound, instead of a wall, with a barrier of wooden planks stoutly fixed together, with numerous turrets set round. Within was constructed a house, or rather citadel, commanding the whole, so that the gate of entry could only be approached by a bridge, which, first springing from the counter-scarp of the ditch, was gradually raised as it advanced, supported by sets of piers, two or even three, trussed on each side over convenient spans, crossing the ditch with a managed ascent so as to reach the upper level of the mound, landing at its edge on a level at the threshold of the gate."<sup>3</sup>

At what date the mason-work on the summit superseded these wooden defences we have no information. According to the view which has been advanced in these paragraphs, the Doune was allowed to fall into decay on the erection of Kildrummy by Gilbert de Moravia before 1245. It is therefore not improbable that when Alexander Elphinstone in 1507

<sup>1</sup> *Antiquities of the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, vol. iv. p. 226.

<sup>2</sup> *Registrum Magni Sigilli*, vol. xviii., No. 191.

<sup>3</sup> Clark, *Medieval Military Architecture*, vol. i. p. 34.

took up his residence upon the old deserted Norman mote he converted it again into a place of strength by building a wall of enceinte round its scarp. It may be mentioned that the masonry has a certain appearance of haste not inconsistent with this theory. On this supposition, the Doune would again be abandoned when Lord Elphinstone entered into wardenship of Kildrummy under the charter of 19th July 1508. Thus its occupancy, according to our view, was restricted to the two brief periods: (1) between some date in the late twelfth or early thirteenth century and the erection of Kildrummy, shortly before 1245; and (2) between the dates when the charters of 8th August 1507 and 19th July 1508 respectively were implemented. This circumstance would well account for the complete absence of incident which we have already noted as one of the most remarkable peculiarities of this hitherto enigmatical structure.

A persistent tradition bears that the mediæval church of Invernochty (Strathdon), which about the year 1200 was granted by the Earl of Mar to the Priory of Monymusk and in the fourteenth century became a prebend of St Machar's Cathedral, stood originally on the Doune of Invernochty. Both Dawson and the *New Statistical Account* affirm this, and Jervise remarks that "a number of mounds, not unlike graves, may be seen towards the east side." There is nothing improbable in the tradition, as parish churches in mediæval times were frequently placed for security within the precincts of a castle. Porchester is a well-known English example; and it will be remembered that in the thirteenth century the parish church of Dumottar, founded in 1246, stood upon the castle rock, where it was burned by Wallace, under circumstances of appalling atrocity, after he stormed the stronghold in 1298—as related by Blind Harry. Another parallel is the Abbey Kirk of Holyrood, which until about 1150 stood on the castle rock of Edinburgh, and is mentioned in a charter of David I. in which he secures to the canons "possession of this church of the Holy Rood of Edwinesburg"—i.e. the Abbey whose ruins remain—"as well as of their old church of the castle."<sup>1</sup> In somewhat the same fashion a castle chapel on occasion took the place of the parish church; an instance of this occurs at Kildrummy, whose noble chapel was, in 1485–1487, utilised as a place of public worship pending the erection of a chapel in the Den of Kildrummy.<sup>2</sup> The chapel was an invariable adjunct of a Norman fortalice, and, if there is any proof in the tradition, it may be that at Invernochty the castle chapel fulfilled also the functions of the parish church. On 22nd December 1409, Alexander Stewart, Earl

<sup>1</sup> Sir H. Maxwell, *Official Guide to the Abbey Church, Palace, and Environs of Holyrood House*, p. 78.

<sup>2</sup> *Exchequer Rolls*, vol. ix. pp. 333, 388, 526.



of Mar, grants a charter to Forbes of Brux of the lands of Glencarvie, Glenconrie, and the Ord, in the lordship of Strathdon, for a penny yearly at the south door of the church of Invernochty.<sup>1</sup> Feudal services were usually rendered at the castle, not at the church, and the apparent exception here affords a strong presumption that in this case the church was in fact within the enceinte of the castle.

Evidence of a less ambiguous nature is supplied by Gordon of Straloch's map of the three shires of Aberdeen, Banff, and Kincardine, reproduced in Robertson's *Collections*. Here the church of Invernochty is distinctly marked in the angle between the Nocht water and the river Don, on the exact position occupied by the Doune, and not on the south side of the river, where the church now stands. It may be noted that in the map by Straloch which appeared in Blaeu's *Atlas* (1654), and includes only the two shires of Aberdeen and Banff, the church is marked in its present position on the south side of the Don. From this it may be inferred that the change took place about this period.

A few other particulars connected with the district may be given here. In 1438 there is a note of a payment by the King's Chamberlain of Mar—the earldom was then held by the Crown—for conducting the royal stallions from Strathavon to Invernochty (*et quinque hominibus agitancium undecim equos indomitos a Strathavon usque Invernochty: v solidi*).<sup>2</sup> This entry might be taken to imply that the Doune was habitable at the period. The lands of Invernochty are mentioned under rather curious circumstances in 1494-1497. It appears that the Crown had leased Invernochty and Bellabeg to George, Earl of Huntly, who about this time was warden or lieutenant-governor of Kildrumny Castle. The Earl had accordingly given Sir William Contts, vicar of Invernochty, and certain other persons, permission to farm Invernochty and Bellabeg; and this aroused the wrath of Duncan Forbes of Towie, who held or imagined that he held rights on the lands in question. Duncan accordingly brought an action before the Lords Auditors against Sir William and his fellows "for the wrangwis occupatione and manuring and withholding fra him of the tak and maling of the landis of Invernochty and Ballebeg." Lord Huntly succeeded in proving his case, but the whole episode is a striking sidelight on the state of chaos to which questions of proprietorship on Upper Donside had been reduced by the long dispute between the Erskine family and the Crown regarding the lands of the earldom of Mar.<sup>3</sup>

The Doune of Invernochty is mentioned once again specifically in a

<sup>1</sup> *Registrum Magni Sigilli*, vol. xi., No. 76.

<sup>2</sup> *Exchequer Rolls*, vol. v. pp. 59-60.

<sup>3</sup> *Antiquities of the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, vol. iv. pp. 472-474. Duncan Forbes of Towie is mentioned in connection with the same lands in *Exchequer Rolls*, vol. ix. pp. 391, 527.

charter of 1654. At first a Covenanter, John, the twenty-first Earl of Mar, later joined the Royalist cause, and was hard hit in estates and wealth on the victory of the King's adversaries. His son, also John, was present with Montrose at Philiphaugh (15th August 1645), but escaped alive from the fatal field and retired to Kildrummy. In 1654 he succeeded, but the estates were confiscated by the Scottish parliament, and were not restored to the family till the return of Charles II. in 1660. During the interval several grants of lands in the earldom were made by the Keepers of the Great Seal; and one of these, to John Spence of Blair, includes "the lands of Strathdone of old called the barony of Strathdone, with the tower, fortalices, manor-place, fishings, tenandries, service of free tenants and superiorities of the same."<sup>1</sup> This Spence also got a grant of Kildrummy. The mention of tower, fortalice, and manor-place is quite in the mediæval style, the "tower" being the keep, the " fortalice " the bailey, and the "manor-place" the domestic buildings therein.

In the almost entire absence of reliable information, the reader must form his own opinion as to the theories which have been advanced in the foregoing paragraphs. Such information as we do possess is sufficient to demonstrate the interest of the fortress which even in 1507 could be described as "ancient," and which all down the ages has been so closely associated with the great royal stronghold of Kildrummy. An antiquity to which even the oldest castellated buildings on Donside must yield, and an undoubted though obscure history as the chief seat of one of the great territorial divisions of the Mar earldom, are associated with the presence of structural remains which in interest and good preservation exceed all others of the same kind in the North of Scotland—the Castle of Duffus in Morayshire excepted. It is much to be desired that, as a prelude to attempting a more satisfactory account of this remarkable antiquity, the proprietor would cause the Doune to be thoroughly excavated by some competent archæologist. There can be little doubt that the results would be of great importance for the study of the Scottish defensive architecture, and for the history of Aberdeenshire during that shadowy but fascinating period when the congeries of independent Celtic tribes was giving way to a strongly centralised feudal kingdom.

Meantime the smooth grassy surface of the old Norman mote continues to keep its secret, and not a vestige of history illumines its early past, or preserves any record of the haughty lords who dug its ditch and threw up its banks and built their place of strength on its summit to overawe the sullen aboriginals of twelfth-century Strathdon.

<sup>1</sup> *Register of Great Seal, 1652–1659, No. 179.*

## III.

NOTE ON A POTTERY MASK AND SHERDS OF MEDÆVAL POTTERY  
 FOUND AT THE BASS OF INVERURIE. WITH SOME PARTICULARS  
 OF THE BASS. BY ALEXANDER O. CURLE, F.S.A. SCOT., DIRECTOR  
 OF THE MUSEUM.

I desire to draw attention to three pieces of pottery which were brought to me last summer. They were recovered by Mr Robertson, the gravedigger at Inverurie, in the course of his work in an extension of the cemetery which comes close up to the base of the Bass. These consist of a bearded mask, a segment of the base of a large jug, and a portion of the lip of a similar vessel. The mask (fig. 1) is a rather well-modelled face of a man with a long beard, the latter feature projecting from the face, which has been fixed to the neck of a pitcher, at an angle of 45° or thereabout, to afford a grip and act as a side handle. At the base of the beard there appears a rude representation of a hand, from which probably an arm extended to the body of the vessel. This object is formed of a whitish material and is coated with a light-green lead glaze. It has been probably a part of such a pitcher as is illustrated in the first plate of the *Illustrated Catalogue of Early English Earthenware*, published by the Burlington Fine Arts Club in 1914, and described as having "on each side of the neck a man's mask with long beard forming side handles, the beard spreading out at the end and grasped by a hand and arm in applied relief." Such representations appear to have been fairly common on pitchers of the fourteenth century, and in the last few years I have had occasion to refer twice to the discovery of such objects from excavations of inhabited sites of mediæval times in Scotland: first in the case of Kirkcudbright Castle in 1914,<sup>1</sup> and again in regard to an artificial mound at Kidsneuk, Bogside, Ayrshire, in last year's *Proceedings*.<sup>2</sup>

The second piece of pottery, the segment of the base of a large jar, shows a continuous row of impressed thumb-marks around its edge, and by this feature tends to confirm the fourteenth-century date of the pottery mask. The third object is a portion of the lip of a pitcher of a light-red body coated with a thick lead glaze of deep-green colour. The section of this piece so closely resembles that of a fragment of pottery coated with a rather thick yellow glaze, found in the ditch of the mote of Hawick and dated there to the twelfth or thirteenth century, as to be

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. xlviii., 1913-14, p. 392.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. lii., 1917-18, p. 68.

worth remark, though by itself it is hardly sufficient to add weight to an *a priori* argument for the occupation of the Bass in the twelfth or thirteenth century.

The Bass is a mound, in shape a truncated cone, about 50 feet in height, which occupies a strong position on the right bank of the Ury, close to the southern end of the royal burgh of Inverurie, and at the open end of a loop formed by the junction of that stream with the Don, the two



Fig. 1. Pottery Mask from Bass of Inverurie.

streams coming to within 250 yards of one another about a third of a mile distant from the point of confluence. On the eastern side of this mound there is a prolongation eastward at about half its height for a distance of some fifty yards, known as the Little Bass.

In 1849 the sides of the Bass were trimmed and the top levelled, so that the mound has now a more regular appearance than it originally possessed. Many legends have attempted to account for its peculiar formation, but the true origin was discovered in 1883, when, during the laying out of an extension of the churchyard, a pathway was cut between the Bass and the Little Bass. The section of soil then exposed was examined by Mr Hinxman of the Geological Survey, who happened to be

in the neighbourhood at the time, and who, in a letter to the Aberdeen newspapers, thus described its origin: "This isolated fragment of the ancient river bed, preserved possibly from the effects of denudation by its position in the angle between the two streams, remains a relic of a time when Don and Ury flowed at a level 30 or 40 feet higher than their present course. . . . The section shows alternations of fine and



Fig. 2. Bass of Inverurie.

coarse sand with a few beds of shingle, marking deposition by currents of varying velocity. The finer beds are often false-bedded, and all are composed mainly of water-worn fragments of granite rock. An excavation of the top of the Bass proper shows the upper portion to consist of rearranged sand with no traces of bedding, and it is probable that a few feet of the capping of the mound, together with the smooth conical outline, are the only parts of the structure due to human agency."

The illustration (fig. 2), from a photograph taken before the church-yard extension, shows the Bass with the Little Bass closely attached to it, not separate as it now appears.

There are no visible remains of any stone work on the summit of

either portion of the mound, and there can be little doubt from the general features of the site that we have here another example of the mount-and-bailey castle or mote, such as was introduced into England from Normandy by William the Conqueror, and brought into Scotland by the Anglo-Norman nobles who came northward in the reigns of David I. and William the Lion.

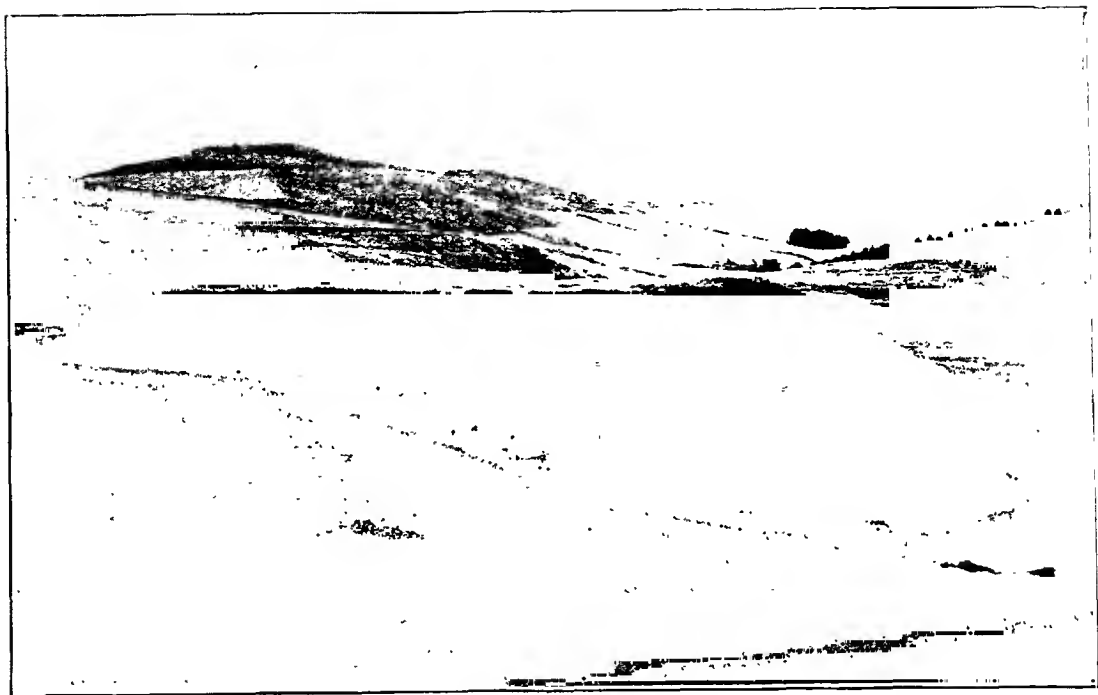


Fig. 3. Peel of Fichlie.

Mr Ritchie, our excellent corresponding member, to whom I am indebted for all the information here given about the Bass, has furnished further details which show that, as was so often the case, a ditch surrounded the mote. On the west side of the Bass, between it and the old churchyard, there was formerly a piece of low-lying ground, known as Killiewalker, which was subject to flooding when the Ury was high, and which would therefore have silt deposited on it. This hollow has now been filled up and made level with the rest of the extended churchyard. But round the foot of the Bass, quite beyond the reach of this flooding, there extends a deposit of soft black earth quite different from the rest of the soil in the neighbourhood. It is encountered when graves

are being dug, and much of it was exposed when, some years ago, a drain was laid round the Bass to carry off water which occasionally interfered with churchyard operations. It has all the appearance of being the remains of a moat, and it was in this black soil that the broken pottery above referred to was found. While this moat has not been systematically traced along its whole course, sufficient indications of it have been found to show that it surrounded both the Bass and the Little Bass. Its nearest edge is about 4 feet from the foot of the Bass: it has a width of about 10 feet, and its depth is at least  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet, probably a little more, as the bottom of it was not reached at that depth. No whole pieces of pottery have been discovered, and it seems probable that those found were the remains of broken dishes thrown away by the inhabitants of the castle.

When the footpath between the Bass and the Little Bass was made in 1883, some pieces of oak were found which appeared to be the remains of a stairway leading up the side of the Bass.

Mote-hills are fairly numerous in certain parts of Scotland, and other two are to be seen farther up the valley of the Don – the Doune of Invernochty, described by Mr Douglas Simpson in the previous communication, and the other known as the Peel of Fichlie (fig. 3), situated half way between Kildrummie and Invernochty. Mr Ritchie describes it as being about 60 feet high, slightly oval in shape, with a flat top, and surrounded by a moat, now dry. No buildings now remain on the top, but vitrified and wrought stones are said to have been found there. The period of the erection of the mote-hills as the twelfth to thirteenth centuries is little open to doubt, but of the length of their endurance in occupation we are still ignorant, though the refuse from their ditches, which no doubt exists in abundance, will some day reveal that fact to us. That the Bass of Inverurie, at least, was in use till well into the fourteenth century, these sherds are sufficient evidence.

MONDAY, 10th *February* 1919.

DAVID MACRITCHIE, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following were elected Fellows:—

GEORGE HENDERSON, Oriel, Fallside, Bothwell.

Lieutenant-Colonel JAMES JOHN MACKAY (late 24th Batt. Middlesex Regiment), Fort Reay, St John's Road, Harrow, Middlesex.

ANDREW SHARP, 139 Princes Street.

The following donations to the Museum and Library were announced and thanks voted to the donors:—

(1) By WILLIAM FORSYTH, F.R.C.S.E., F.S.A.Scot.

Church Tokens—Drainie, 1794; Eassie and Nevay, 1835.

(2) By JAMES MACDONALD, W.S., F.S.A.Scot.

Gold Coins of Trajan and Honorius, both found in the province of Huelva, Spain, about the year 1885.

(3) By ROBERT MUNRO, M.A., M.D., LL.D., F.R.S.E., F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

From Darwinism to Kaiserism, being a Review of the Origin, Effects, and Collapse of Germany's attempt at World-Dominion by methods of barbarism. Glasgow, 1919. 8vo.

(4) By D. HAY FLEMING, LL.D., F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

Some Subscribed Copies of the Solemn League and Covenant. (From the papers of the Edinburgh Bibliographical Society.) Privately printed. Edinburgh, 1918. 4to.

(5) By the ROYAL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN ANTIQUARIES, Copenhagen.

Nordiske Fortidsminder. Avec des résumés en français. I. Bind, 1-6 Hefter; II. Bind, 1 Hefte. Copenhagen, 1890-1911. Imperial 4to.

The purchase of the following books for the Library was intimated:—

The House of Arnot and some of its Branches. Compiled by James Arnott, M.D., Brigade Surgeon-Lieut.-Colonel, I.M.S. (retired). Edinburgh, 1918. 4to.



The British Numismatic Journal, 1916, including the Proceedings of the British Numismatic Society for the year 1915. Edited by H. B. Earle Fox. Vol. xii. Second Series, vol. ii. London, 1918.

The Journal of Egyptian Archæology, vol. v., part ii. April 1918.

The following Communications were read:—

# I.

NOTE ON THE "HOUSEHOLD PLENISHINGS BELONGING TO THE DECEIST ANDRO HOG, WRITER TO THE SIGNET, PUBLICKLY ROUPED AND SOLD UPON THE 19TH, 20TH, 21ST, 22ND, 23RD AND 24TH DAYS OF OCTR., 1691 YEARES." BY R. SCOTT-MONCRIEFF. SECRETARY.

Of the various kinds of documents that have come down to us from the past, none help to give us a more vivid picture of the habits of bygone ages than inventories, be they of clothes, of arms and munitions of war, or of furniture. We are fortunate in having a good many of these, but not unnaturally they generally deal with the belongings of royalty, of nobility, or at least of the landed gentry. An unusual interest therefore attaches to a roup roll containing an inventory of what purports to be the "haill household plenishings" of a middle-class professional man in the person of a Writer to the Signet who lived and died in Edinburgh in the latter half of the seventeenth century. A roup roll contains even more than an ordinary inventory, in that it gives not only a list of belongings but also the prices received for each article and the names of the purchasers. It may be that the inventory in question appeals unduly to me, being as I am a brother in the same profession and naturally interested in comparing the life it reveals with the home life of to-day. At the same time I hope it may be not without interest to the members of this Society generally.

Andrew Hog, Writer to the Signet, died in the beginning of October 1691—he was buried in Greyfriars on 6th October; and he thus just preceded the great change in social customs which began to take place towards the end of the seventeenth century. It was the age of ale and beer for breakfast instead of tea and coffee, and this must be borne in mind. The roup roll which forms the subject of this paper is engrossed in the sederunt book kept by the tutors appointed by him for his children. This book also contains minutes of meeting, notes as to balances due to and by his clients, and the annual accounts dealing with the trust funds until 28th April 1710, when his only surviving son came of age.

Little is known of Andro Hog, and that little has in the main been gleaned from incidental references in the sederunt book. He served his apprenticeship to his father's cousin William Hog, and was admitted to the Society of Writers to the Signet on 28th July 1690. William Hog, his master, was admitted a W.S. on 20th December 1673, and died prior to 30th April 1688, when the inventory of his estate is recorded. The two Hogs married sisters, viz. Rachel and Jean, the daughters of the Rev. John Sinclair or St Clair, Minister of Ormiston and brother of the Laird of Herdmanston. From references in the note-book kept by Mrs Rachel Hog, to which after-reference will be made, it is evident that Andro succeeded to his cousin's business, and that their clientele consisted largely of south-country lairds such as Murray of Philiphaugh, Sir Francis Scott of Thirlestane, the lairds of Carlops, Symington, and Moriston. There also appear the names of some well-known Edinburgh citizens, such as Sir George Warrender and Sir Robert Blackwood. Altogether they seem to have had a respectable connection. It was probably in relation to the affairs of his Border clients that Hog had undertaken the journey south from which he returned only to take ill and to die.

Hog's wife had predeceased him in May 1691, and his son John followed him in the beginning of the following February. The sederunt book contains a detailed account of the cost of this child's funeral, candles for the "Laikwak," alms at the house, the church, and the cemetery, sugar biscuits, shortbread, and "pembies," whatever these may be. The total amounts to £100, 12s. Scots, or £8, 7s. 8d. sterling, the biggest item being for "wine and seek furnished to ye house and to ye mourners at breakfast after the buriall."

I regret that I can find in the accounts no trace of where Hog's house was situated, but the rent for it was £114 Scots, or £9, 10s. sterling per annum, and was paid to George Marshall. Immediately after Hog's death it was sublet to Robert Smith, "violler" or fiddler, which does not indicate a very fashionable mansion. Hog had also a writing chamber, for which he paid a rent of £60 Scots, or £5 sterling per annum, and a chamber in Wright's Houses, which was sublet at the time of his death, and for which he paid a rent to James Clark of £40 Scots, or £3, 6s. 8d. sterling per annum. To what use he can have put this chamber it is difficult to guess. Week-ends and golf on the Bruntfield Links are unthinkable at this period.

Nor is it easy to make out how much money he left, as the accounts make no distinction between capital and revenue, and as the interest or annual rents on his investments were paid most erratically, sometimes being as much as five years in arrear. I estimate, however, that after paying all his debts and some legacies, there was handed over to his son

when he came of age about £7500 Scots, or £635 sterling. This was a considerable sum as things went in those days—equal in purchasing power to at least £6000 of our money—and quite sufficient for the support of the ward, whose board and lodging during his minority amounted to only £133, 6s. 8d. Scots, or £11, 3s. 8d. sterling per annum. As the rate of interest on his investments was  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., two-thirds of his income remained for the purchase of his clothes and the expenses of his education, etc. Although the capital of his estate was not handed over to the ward until he came of age, the income of it was paid to him regularly after he attained his minority, and a most exact account he kept of it.

Having buried Andrew Hog on the 6th October, the tutors nominated by him lost no time in entering on their duties, and held their first meeting the following day. They called to their deliberations the Hon. Lady Margaret Hope of Hopetoun, Mr Robert Bennet, Advocate, and Mr Henry Douglas, Writer. One can understand the advocate and the writer, but why Lady Margaret Hope? They met again on the 16th, when they "ordained the hail household plenishings belonging to the defunct," etc., "to be exposed to public roup." Acting under these instructions, the bulk of the plenishings were rouped on the 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd and 24th October, and realised £529, 4s. Scots, or £44, 2s. sterling. Some linen valued at £56, 14s. Scots, "two stoned rings, the one a spark of a diamond the other counterfoot, with five gold woupes and ane gold lockit and silver seall and silver whistle and ane medell of silver, all valued by James Cockburn, goldsmith, to be worth 46 lbs. Scots," were retained presumably for the subsequent use of the ward, and the remainder of the plenishings were afterwards sold for £165, 14s. Scots, or £13, 16s. 2d. sterling. The total value of the deceased's effects was therefore £66, 9s. 4d. sterling. The rings above mentioned were found along with a guinea in Mrs Hog's "little box," and no doubt belonged to her. There is nothing to show to whom the other small articles belonged. Three of the gold "woupes" appear later on as being handed over to the ward when he came of age. The silver whistle had probably been handed to him prior to that date, for in his own private account book there occurs the entry, "Sold ane old silver child's whistle." I may here interpolate a remark as to the ward's private account book. It is written in a distinct but exceedingly small hand most trying to the eyes and suggestive of a very fine steel pen. It is just possible that this was actually what he used, for he mentions the purchase of a case to hold his pen of "white iron," 3s. Scots. This entry is interesting, as it occurs in the year 1710, considerably before the date generally associated with the use of steel pens.

In going over the roup roll one's first effort is to make out, if possible, the number of rooms in the house. Only three are mentioned, viz. the chamber, the little chamber, and the kitchen. The coal cellar is also mentioned, the coals in which were purchased by Mr Smith for £5, 16s. Scots, or 9s. 8d. sterling. There was a curtained corded bed in the chamber and another in the little chamber, and probably these rooms contained the only two mirrors mentioned, namely, the one with the olive-coloured frame purchased by Mr Wilkie for £1, 5s. Scots (2s. 1d. sterling), and the other with the black frame purchased by Mrs Fisher for £8 Scots (13s. 4d. sterling). There was also a folding bed in the kitchen purchased by Dr Mitchell's lady for £3, 10s. Scots (5s. 10d. sterling), a lang saddle or couch which was convertible into a bed, and which with its bedding was purchased by Lady Helen Anstruther for £13, 14s. Scots (£1, 2s. 10d. sterling), and an old lang saddle. There were four complete sets of bedding sold, each consisting of a feather-bed, bolster, and two cods or pillows, and there were also two palliasses and two chaff mattresses. I leave it to others to apportion these five beds and bedding between Hog, his two infant children and their nurse, and the three servants who seem to have been kept.

Of other bedroom furniture there were two pewter basins and a loam one; two pewter chamber-pots, a tin one, and a stone one, and a close stool. There were also one chest of drawers, a fir press, a napery press, and in the kitchen two almeries.

In addition to the bedrooms and kitchen there was no doubt a living room or dining-room of sorts, at least the six Russia leather chairs purchased by Mrs Aird for £15 Scots (£1, 5s. sterling), and the green arm-chair and stool purchased by Mrs Campbell for £6 Scots (10s. sterling), suggest such. There was probably no drawing-room, but this is not surprising, as we know of even such better-class houses as Jerviswood being without one at this period. The four little carpet chairs covered with red must therefore have belonged to the bed chambers, big and little. This left “three old wand chairs,” four old chairs, and two wooden stools as the sitting accommodation for the kitchen and the rest of the house.

To allocate the tables is a little difficult, as there were only three of these.

Of china and glass there was none, but there were twenty-eight pewter, ten timber, and six loam or earthenware trenchers, and a couple of quaichs, some stoups, two English flagons, and a copper tankard for drinking. There were also two silver cups.

Only three knives are mentioned, and no forks; but there are six silver spoons. It is quite likely that the forks and spoons were of pewter, and being worn, were scrapped and sold along with the other old pewter. At

this time pewter articles were constantly being melted down and remade. The absence of knives and forks may be accounted for by the fashion of each person carrying his own. The ward in his accounts mentions the purchase of a knife, fork, and case on two different occasions. On the other hand, a "cave" or case is sold which may have contained knives and forks in the old-fashioned way, although the usual meaning of the word "cave" is a case for spirit bottles. The cave in question was sold along with the Bible, each fetching £5 Scots (8s. 4d. sterling). The coupling of these two is quite in accordance with the English view of Scottish character.

The kitchen strikes one as having been extremely sparsely furnished. There were a couple of iron pots and a white iron pan and a brass pan, two branders and an iron kettle, besides other small things such as spits, scales, and weights, "searches" or sieves, etc.

Of other furnishings there were some eight brass candlesticks, an old barrel and a dry ware one, some fire-irons, and a supply of spinning utensils including a wheel. For summoning the servants, there were two "skellats," i.e. handbells or rattles. There were also two suites of hangings or curtains and some half-dozen cushions; but, strange to say, no mention of carpets or pictures, and the only book in the house was apparently the Bible already referred to.

Of pictures I can quite believe Hog had none, and he may have had no carpets, but it is difficult to believe that he had no books. Perhaps the explanation lies in the course followed by his son, the ward. This youth, who from the time of his pupillarity kept an exact account of his expenditure, and who was "laureated" on 9th April 1707 by the famous "Mr Carstairs," was constantly buying books,<sup>1</sup> and as constantly selling them again, and it may be that those of literary tastes but of slender means adopted this method of procuring books, for as yet Allan Ramsay and his circulating library were not.

There is another thing which Andro Hog seems to have been without, for there is no mention of it, and that is a watch. If he had had one, it would have certainly gone to his only surviving son; yet we find that young man hiring a watch from his cousin for the modest sum of £1, 4s. Scots, or 2s. sterling per annum. He had, however, to be responsible for the upkeep of the said watch, as is shown by several entries for repairs in his accounts.

To conclude my remarks on the roup roll, which will be printed *in extenso*, I may mention that the following were amongst the purchasers: Lady Helen Anstruther, Dean of Guild Hamilton's lady, Dr Mitchell's

<sup>1</sup> Amongst other books bought and sold was Vauban's *Art of Fortification*, which must have been an almost new publication at that time.

lady, Dr Nisbet's lady, the Lady Friershaw, the Lady Symington, and Lady Arniston, and that the highest price for any lot was £22 Scots (£1, 16s. 8d. sterling), and was got for "ane feather-bed, two codes and ane palise," and the lowest 3s. Scots (3d. sterling) for "ane broken dark lantern."

I am sure you will agree with me that the few details which I have given you indicate a life of much less comfort and refinement than the life of the average W.S. of the present day. There are, however, at least two things which strike me as disproportionate to the general meagreness, and these are, first, the supply of linen and blankets, and second, the number of servants. These two points are really one, for the large supply of the former was due to the large number of the latter, as both the linen and woollen yarn were spun at home and sent to be woven. On returning from the weaver, the linen was sent to the bleacher, and the alasant or woollen material to be dyed. A considerable quantity of tow, "heckled" or twisted lint, spinnels of linen yarn or woollen yarn, "meekle wheill spinning," were sold at the end of the roup. It was no doubt in connection with the weighing of these that the "balk and broads," or weighing beams and boards, were required. It may be of interest to know that there were twenty-nine pairs of sheets, nine table-cloths, six dozen fine serviettes and twenty rag-a-bag ones, besides a considerable quantity of unbleached linen and dornick (chequered table linen). Another thing that strikes one is the comparatively high rent paid for the house.

Although the following does not come strictly within the title of this paper, perhaps I may be allowed to add a word regarding the household of another professional man of that time, namely, the Rev. Thomas Wilkie, minister of the Canongate, a friend of Andro Hog and one of the tutors named by him for his children. Wilkie became the second husband of Mrs Rachel Hog, Andro Hog's sister-in-law, and the following information is gleaned from a notebook kept by that extremely capable woman. Wilkie enjoyed a stipend of 2500 marks, or £138, 17s. 10d. sterling, and as his wife apparently had a private income of about £60 sterling, he must have been comparatively well off for those times. He was a man of some eminence, was twice Moderator of the Assembly, and left four hundred volumes to the then new Divinity Hall Library. We find from his wife's account book that the rent of his house, which was in the Canongate, was £186 Scots, or £15, 10s. sterling, and that it contained at least a kitchen, a back room, a mid room, an upstairs room, and Mr Wilkie's room. All these rooms had fireplaces. Other rooms there may have been with fireplaces, but if so they had apparently no fire-irons. You will note that here also there is no reference to either dining-room or drawing-room. Wilkie's kitchen was much better furnished than Hog's, as the list of

kitchen utensils shows. He had also a considerable amount of silver, which was valued at £567, 18s. Scots, or £47, 6s. 6d. sterling. Amongst the various articles mentioned are half a dozen new-fashioned spoons, half a dozen new-fashioned forks, and half a dozen silver-hefted knives. The following is rather an interesting little note in his wife's handwriting:—

“An account of what my house stood me from Martimas 99 to Whitsunday 700.

“Item for keeping of the house in fresh meat							
£22	3	11	and other necessaries	.	.	lbs. 266	6 8
0	15	0	for butter	.	.	9	0 0
0	11	8	for more butter	.	.	3	0 0
0	5	0	for herrin	.	.	7	0 0
...	...	...	for bread	.	.	...	...
2	5	0	for salt beafe	.	.	27	0 0
1	3	4	for salt.	.	.	14	0 0
<hr/> £27 3 11				<hr/> 326 6 8“			

The household consisted of at least eight persons.

I must not, however, linger over this notebook. I shall only say that it contains, besides the prices of foods, a most miscellaneous collection of information. We learn how many “toys” or night-caps the Rev. Mr Wilkie possessed, how much John Hog paid for his passage from Leith to London, and how he took with him a new tartan “night-gown” (dress-ing-gown). We also learn, sad to say, how much it cost to get his brother Charles out of the Tolbooth; and still sadder, what was paid to redeem his poor Aunt Sarah (Sinclair) when a similar misfortune overtook her.

I would only like to add, that in comparing present prices with those ruling in, say, 1707, I feel sure, from a careful examination, that the buying power of money—£1 sterling for £1 sterling—was at that time at least ten times as great as it is now.

#### THE INVENTORY.

Inventare of the houshold plenishing belonging to the deceist Andro Hog Writer to the Signet publicklie rouped and sold upon the 19th. 20th. 21st. 22d. 23d. and 24th dayes of Octor 1691 yeires By Rachell Sinclare relict of the deceist Wm. Hog Writer to ye Signet and of the tutors testamentary nominat be the defunct to his children conforme to the order and appoyntment of the remanent tutors to the s<sup>d</sup> children above named And which goods and pryces thereof ar heir set doune conforme to ther order.

#### *Sheitts.*

	Lib.	s.	d.
To Anna Mercer two paire of course sheitts the one at 40s. and the other at 30ss. pr. paire Inde . . . . .	003	16	0
To Eliz <sup>h</sup> . Jollie ane paire of course sheitts at . . . . .	001	16	0
To Hellen Shethrnm ane paire of old sheitts at . . . . .	002	00	0
To Eliz <sup>h</sup> . Jollie ane paire round lineu sheitts at . . . . .	002	00	0

“HOUSEHOLD PLENISHINGS BELONGING TO ANDRO HOG.” 59

To Hellen Shethrum ane paire of old linnen sheits at . . . . .	001	15	0
To Mrs Craige ane paire of old linnen sheits at . . . . .	001	11	0
To ditto Craige ane paire of sheits at . . . . .	001	18	0
To Mrs Aird ane paire of straikine at . . . . .	002	08	0
To her ane other paire ditto sheits at . . . . .	003	00	0
To Mrs Orphit ane paire of harden sheits at . . . . .	001	16	0
To Mrs Aird ane paire of new linnen sheits at . . . . .	004	00	0
To her ane paire hardin sheits at . . . . .	001	12	0
To Mrs Ker ane paire of harden sheits at . . . . .	001	16	0
To Doctor Mitchells Lady ane pair of harden sheits at . . . . .	001	16	0
To her another paire of harden sheits at . . . . .	001	16	0
To Mrs Craige two paire of linnen sheits . . . . .	008	00	0
To Mrs Wilkie in Cannongate ane paire of harden sheits at . . . . .	001	16	0
To Mrs Aird ane paire of sheits of two and ane half breadths at . . . . .	005	10	0
To Doctor Nisbets Lady two paire of harden sheits at . . . . .	003	06	0
To Agnes Kid ane paire of sheits at . . . . .	002	10	0
To Margaret Hay ane paire of old harden sheits at . . . . .	002	03	0
To Kathrin Ker ane paire of linen sheits at . . . . .	004	00	0
To Mrs Hog ane paire of linnen sheits at . . . . .	003	10	0
To the nurse ane paire of sheits at . . . . .	003	00	0
To Mrs Hog ane paire of tweill sheits at . . . . .	001	10	0
	007	08	0

*Blankits.*

To deane of gild Hamiltons Lady 2 paire of blankits at . . . . .	003	12	0
To Lady Hellen Enstruther four paire of course blankits at 36ss. p <sup>r</sup> paire Inde . . . . .	007	04	0
To Elizabeth Whytelaw ane dutch blankit at . . . . .	004	00	0
To Doctor Mitchells Lady two single blankits . . . . .	001	12	0
To her ane pair of spranged blankits at . . . . .	001	16	0
To Mrs Bonden ane English bed blaukit at . . . . .	005	00	0
To Thomas Kyle ane cradle blankit at . . . . .	001	04	0
To Mrs ffrazer four paire of blankits at . . . . .	017	08	0
To Lady Hellen Enstruther ane pair of blankits at . . . . .	002	10	0
To Mrs Whytefoord ane pair of blankits at . . . . .	002	03	0

*Naprie and other Linnens.*

To Mrs Margaret Wilkie ane duzone of dornick servits and ane table cloath at . . . . .	003	18	0
To Mrs Moncriefe ane duzone of ditto servits and ane table cloath at . . . . .	004	04	0
To Eliz. Jollie thrie old servits and ane table cloath at . . . . .	001	00	0
To Agnes Kid ane old table cloath at . . . . .	000	12	0
To Mrs Whytefoord two servits and ane towell . . . . .	000	15	0
To Hellen Swintounne fower old servits and ane old tablecloath at . . . . .	001	04	0
To Mrs Kyle ane duzone of fyne naprie and ane table cloath at . . . . .	018	00	0
To Mrs Hog twentie hagabag servits at 4 s. p. paire Inde . . . . .	004	00	0
To Mrs Wilkie ane duzon of towells at . . . . .	004	16	0
To Mrs Marg <sup>t</sup> . Wilkie two codwaires at . . . . .	000	12	0
To Mrs Hog six old codwaires at 3 ss. the pair Inde . . . . .	000	18	0
To Mrs Gellie four old Straikine towells at . . . . .	000	11	0
To Mrs Marg <sup>t</sup> . Wilkie thrie codwaires at . . . . .	000	18	0
To Mrs Hog thrie codwaires at . . . . .	000	18	0
To Mrs Marg <sup>t</sup> . Hay thrie codwaires at . . . . .	000	17	0



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To Mrs Hog thrie codwaires at . . . . .	000 15 0
To Mrs Grahame 2 ps. containing 30 eln of dornick for servits at 13ss. 4d. the eln inde . . . . .	020 00 0
To Mrs Hog 26 Eln of unbletshed linnen at 12 ss. p. eln inde . . . . .	015 12 0
To her 2 codwaires at . . . . .	000 12 0
	<hr/> 193 19 0

To Mrs Aird ane Litle brase candlestick 1 Lb., 5ss. and ane hand brass ditto at 16 ss. inde . . . . .	002 01 0
To Mrs Wilkie ane looking glase with ane olive collored frame at . . . . .	004 04 0
To Mrs Hume ane brase hand candlestick at . . . . .	000 16 0
To deane of gild Hamiltones Lady ane tin chamber pot . . . . .	001 14 0
To doctor Mitchells Lady, the folding bed in the kitching at . . . . .	003 10 0
To her ane large possett dish of Loame at . . . . .	001 04 0
To Mrs Hislop the stript hangings at . . . . .	011 04 0
To Mrs Wilkie ane brase Lanthorne at . . . . .	003 18 0
To Lady Hellen Enstruther ane fether bed bolster and two cods with ane Langsadle at . . . . .	013 14 0
To her Lass ane coper tanker at £1. 6s. ane whyt iron filler at 4 ss. and ane frame for smoothing irones at 5 ss. inde . . . . .	002 05 0
To Mrs Ker ane paire of brase shells and litle steill balk wt ane halfe pund of brase and halfe pund of lead weights at . . . . .	004 04 0
To Mrs Know the largest almerie in the Kitching at . . . . .	002 02 0
To Mrs Scott ane litle tub and timber salf fatt at . . . . .	000 07 0
To Mrs Ker ane brase skellet at . . . . .	001 10 0
To Mrs Wilkie ane litle quech at . . . . .	000 08 0
To Mrs Scott ane litle skellet at . . . . .	000 19 0
To the Lady Friershaw an litle meale kit at . . . . .	000 04 0
To Lady Hellen Enstruther thrie loame plaits and ane loame bassone at . . . . .	001 04 0
To deane of gild Hamiltones Lady ane pewther bassone . . . . .	000 16 0
To Mrs Kyll ane litle brase pan at . . . . .	001 01 0
To the Lady Symingtone ane english flagone at . . . . .	002 14 0
To Mrs Ker ten timber trenshers at . . . . .	000 13 0
To Agnes Ker ane baik bread at . . . . .	000 04 0
To Mrs Aird six Rushia lether chaires at 50 ss. pr peice inde . . . . .	015 00 0
To Lady Hellen Enstruther ane timber baskit at . . . . .	000 12 0
To doctor Mitchells Lady ane flesh hook at 5 ss. and ane fire shovell at 12 ss. inde . . . . .	000 17 0
To Mrs Kyll ane chaffe bed at . . . . .	001 16 0
To Lady Hellen Enstruther ane fether bed bolster and two cods at . . . . .	012 00 0
To Mrs Ker ane old stand at . . . . .	000 15 0
To Mrs Whytefoord ane old chaffe bed at . . . . .	001 00 0
The totall of this page caried over extends to . . . . .	<hr/> Lb. 286 05 0

Brought over from the preceeding page . . . . .	286 05 0
To Mrs Browne two sole plates weighting 5½ pounds at 10ss. pr pound inde . . . . .	002 15 0
To Mrs Campbell ane meale peck at . . . . .	000 06 0
To Eliz. Whytlaw ane chamber box at . . . . .	002 08 0
To ane paire of midle size candlesticks at . . . . .	003 10 0
To Mrs Meime ane folding table at . . . . .	003 12 0

“HOUSEHOLD PLENISHINGS BELONGING TO ANDRO HOG.” 61

To deane of gild Hamiltones Lady ane duzone of pewther trenchers at £6, and ane old covering at 18ss. Inde . . . . .	006	18	0
To Mrs Bowden ane check reill at . . . . .	001	00	0
To Lady Hellen Enstruther thrie paire of earthenwaire one riven loame trencher ane litle loam pott and ane litle search at . . . . .	001	04	0
To her Lass ane stone chamber pott at . . . . .	000	04	0
To Mrs Campbell ane grein armed chaire and foott stoole at . . . . .	006	00	0
To Mrs Hay ane birse switcher for hangings at . . . . .	000	12	0
To Kathrein drysedale ane pewther chamber pott at . . . . .	001	02	0
To Hellen Swintone ane covering at . . . . .	001	04	0
To Mrs Purdie ane litle old chimney at . . . . .	001	04	0
To Lady Hellen Enstruther thrie old caice knyves at . . . . .	000	12	0
To Mrs Kyll thrie old wand chaires at 12ss. p <sup>i</sup> paire . . . . .	001	06	0
To Hellen Swintone two smoothing irous at . . . . .	000	18	0
To Lady Hellen Enstruther ane irone pott broad at . . . . .	000	10	0
To Thomas Kyll ane bed pau at . . . . .	002	02	0
To him ane folding table at . . . . .	003	12	0
To him ane broken dark Lanthorne at . . . . .	000	03	0
To him ane litle chamber brase at . . . . .	001	17	0
To Mrs ffraser ane fether bed bolster two codes and ane palise at . . . . .	022	00	0
To her ane pewther bassone at . . . . .	001	00	0
To Mr Smith the cordit bed in the litle chamber with some shelves in the kitching at . . . . .	006	00	0
To Mrs fisher the looking glass with the blak fraime . . . . .	008	00	0
To John Mitchell ane chist of drawers at . . . . .	013	00	0
To Mrs Cockburne ane butter kitt at . . . . .	000	08	0
To Mrs McClellan ane pestoll and mortor at . . . . .	002	00	0
To her ane litle boat at . . . . .	000	06	0
To Lady Hellen Enstruther six old cusheones at . . . . .	004	16	0
To her Lass ane baskit at . . . . .	000	12	0
To Mrs Margt. Wilkie ane baskit at . . . . .	000	12	0
To Mrs Clelland ane pewther salt fatt at . . . . .	000	13	0
To Lady Hellen Enstruther and naprie press at . . . . .	004	16	0
To Mrs Whytefoord ane old fether bed bolster and two codes at . . . . .	009	00	0
To Mrs Bowden ane old trunk at . . . . .	002	00	0
To Mrs Whytefoord the cordit bed in the Chamber at . . . . .	006	06	0
To Thomas Borthwick ane earthen drainer at . . . . .	000	05	0
To Mrs Wingset thrie old chaires ane paire of tonges and two timber stooles at . . . . .	002	18	0
To the Lady Arniestowne ane fir presse at . . . . .	010	18	0
To Mrs . . . ane ruber paidle and brass pane at . . . . .	002	18	0
To Kathren Hay ane litle chist at . . . . .	001	00	0
To Mrs Whytefoord ane fether bed bolster and two cods at . . . . .	017	00	0
To Mrs Whytefoord ane broken brase hand candlestick and ane old litle broken skellet at . . . . .	007	00	0
To her seven pounds of Lead weights at . . . . .	000	12	0
To Mrs Hog ane timber balk and broads at . . . . .	001	04	0
To Lady Arniestowne ane sute of stamped curtaines and ane bed twilt at . . . . .	017	00	0
To Mrs Hog ane birse bissonne at . . . . .	000	12	0
To Mr Thomas Skinner ane muchken stoup at . . . . .	000	07	0
To him ane irone kete at . . . . .	001	10	0
To Kathren Hay ane old litle baskit at . . . . .	000	04	0
To her ane litle dry waire barrell at . . . . .	000	03	0

To Lady Hellen Enstruther four pewther plaits weighing 14 pund 12 unce at 10ss. the pund Inde . . . . .	007	07	6
To Kathren Hay ane litle box at . . . . .	000	05	0
To Mrs Hog two paire of old tow cairds at . . . . .	000	16	0
To her ane halfe muchken stoup and ane gill at . . . . .	000	08	0
To Mr Craighead 8 lb. 11 unce of plait pewther at 9ss. ye pund Inde . . . . .	003	18	0
To him ane broken iron candlestick at . . . . .	000	02	0
To him two pair of old hangings at . . . . .	002	00	0
To him ane old broken standart at 12ss. and ane old chaire at 14ss. Inde . . . . .	001	06	0
To Mrs Hog ane lint wheill at . . . . .	001	16	0
To Mrs Whytefoord ane old quech with a broken step at . . . . .	000	07	0
To Mrs Hog ane old search at . . . . .	000	04	0
To Kathren Hay ane chist at . . . . .	001	16	0
To Mr Wm. McKairtney ane pinte stoup mucken stoup and chamber pott weighing nyne pound at 7ss. p <sup>r</sup> pund Inde . . . . .	003	03	0
To him ane litle table 12ss., and ane gill stoop at 4ss. . . . .	000	16	0
To Mrs Whytefoord ane old palise and an old whyte iron pan at . . . . .	000	18	0
To Mrs Clelland ane paire of yarn winells at . . . . .	000	14	0
To Mrs Bowden ane woole wherle . . . . .	001	00	0
To Mrs Whytefoord ane litle fire shovell and tonges with ane paire of old tonges and old brander for collops and ane brander for a dreiping pan at . . . . .	001	17	0
To Mr Wm. McKartney ane old langesadle at . . . . .	002	00	0
To Mrs Rule for litle carpet chaires at . . . . .	007	16	0
To Mr Smith the coalls in the seller at . . . . .	005	16	0
To Mrs Hog two codwaires at . . . . .	000	12	0
To . . . . . ane large iron pott at . . . . .	003	10	0
To Mrs Hog 2½ stone of tow at £2. 16s. p. stone . . . . .	007	00	0
To her foar pund of heckled lint at 8ss. p. pund inde . . . . .	001	12	0
To her thrie spinell of linnen yaire round and small at 22ss. p <sup>r</sup> spinell Inde . . . . .	003	06	0
To her eight pund weight of woollen yairne meckle wheill spinning at at 10s. the pund Inde . . . . .	004	00	0
The totall soume of the forgoing account extends to . . . . .	Lb.	529	04 0

This is ane true and exact Inventar of the household furniture belonging to the deceist Andrew Hog and ane exact account of the raits and pryees at which they were sold which is attested by us the said Rachell Sinclair Marg<sup>t</sup>. Wilkie servitrix to my Lady Hoptoune and Marione Wright relict of Jon Whytefoord Writer in Edin<sup>r</sup>. who were all present and assisting at the said Roup during the contenance therof and lykwyse the same is attested by Thomas George Writer in Edin<sup>r</sup>. who wes clerk thereto as witnes our hands at Edin<sup>r</sup>. the twentie day of Nov<sup>r</sup>. jayvjc and nyntie ane yeirs.

MARION WRIGHT,  
RACHEL SINCLAR,  
TOMAS GEORGE.

Inventare of household plenishing and other goods belonging to the deceist Andrew Hog Writer to the Signet which wer not sold at the Rouping and wch are yet in the custodie of the s<sup>d</sup>. Rachell Sinclair.

ffour paire of linnen sheits wherof thrie paire ar valued at 6 lb. p<sup>r</sup>  
paire and ane paire at 3 lb. . . . . 21 0 0

“HOUSEHOLD PLENISHINGS BELONGING TO ANDRO HOG.” 63

Item thrie duzone of fyne dornick servits valued at 14 ss. Scots p. peice and thrie ditto table cloathes at 3 lb. 10s. p <sup>r</sup> peice valued be Mrs Wilsone and Mrs Whytefoord . . . . .	35 11 0
Item two stoned ringes the ane a spark of a diamond the other counterfoot with fyve gold woupes and ane gold lockit and silver seall and silver whistle and ane medall of silver all valued by James Cockburne goldsmith to be worth 46 lbs. Scots .	46 0 0
Item six silver spoones with ane large and little silver tumbler weight 15 unce.	
Item 20 lb. weight of pewther vessell at	
Item ane duzone of pewther trenchers at	
Item ane paire of large brase candlesticks.	
Item fourtie eight elu of Alasant from the weaver not yet dyed.	
Item six elu of wollen and linnen stufe.	
Item ane iron pott and pott clips.	
Item ane Inglish flagon.	
Item ane paire of tonges.	
Item two chaires covered with red.	
Item two speits.	
Item ane fine basket.	
Item the kitching chimney and standing raxes therof ane of them broken.	
Item ane sute of red curtaines with in pand out pand and foot pand for wlk ther wes bidin 12 lb. Scots.	
Item ane dressing box.	
Item ane bible.	
Item ane cave.	

*Note.*—Of the articles enumerated in this list all were afterwards sold, with the exception of the first three items, and realised £165. 1s. Scots.

## II.

NOTES ON SOME STONE CIRCLES IN THE SOUTH OF ABERDEENSHIRE  
AND NORTH OF KINCARDINESHIRE. BY JAMES RITCHIE.  
F.E.I.S., CORRESPONDING MEMBER.

The following paper is a continuation of the Notes on Stone Circles, the earlier portion of which, relating to the circles in Central Aberdeenshire, appeared in vol. li. of the *Proceedings*, and is intended to supplement and bring up to date the information contained in the reports of Mr Fred R. Coles on the circles in the Aberdeen district, which appear in vols. xxxiv. to xxxix. of the *Proceedings*.

The circles referred to are (I.) in Aberdeenshire: (1) Wester Echt, (2) Balblair, (3) Gask or Springhill, (4) Standing Stones of Cullerlie, (5) Balnacraig, and (6) Inchbaire, and Corsedardar Stone; (II.) in Kincardineshire: (1) Inchmarlo Lodge, (2) Banchory-Ternan, (3) Standing Stones of Durris, (4) Tilquhillie, and (5) Rees of Clune, along with Rees of Clune and Sundayswells Ring Cairns.

## I. SOUTH ABERDEENSHIRE CIRCLES.

## (1) WESTER ECHT.

The remains of this circle stand a few hundred yards to the west of the road leading from Waterton to Echt, about one mile south of Waterton and two miles north of Echt. The circle consisted originally of nine stones, but only three now remain (fig. 1), and these are plainly visible from the road near the lodge at the western entrance to Dunecht House. The most easterly of the stones is 9 feet high, and about 4 feet broad and 3 feet thick at the base. The middle stone is nearly as bulky as its neighbour, but is only 6 feet high. It has partly fallen over, and now leans towards the outside of the circle. The third stone is 8 feet high and 5 feet broad, but its thickness is only about 1 foot 6 inches. It has, on the side facing the interior of the circle, two smaller stones set firmly in the ground at right angles to the face of the upright stone. These two stones are about 3 feet apart, and rise only a short distance above the level of the ground. They seem to be the remains of a stone cist, and indicate that this circle, like so many others, had been used for burial purposes.

## (2) BALBLAIR.

About a hundred yards from the circle at Midmar Kirk, in a strip of plantation running north between the road and a field on its eastern side, there stands a single stone which is reputed to be the sole remnant of a

circle. It is of reddish granite and measures 8 feet 6 inches in height. Its average width is about 1 foot 6 inches, but near the top it expands to 1 foot 10 inches. Its greatest thickness is 1 foot 7 inches near the base, but at the broad part near the top it is only 10 inches thick. When viewed from the north side this stone has much the appearance of a



Fig. 1. Remains of Wester Echt Stone Circle.

damaged cross from which the arms have been broken off; but this appearance is deceptive, for a closer inspection fails to confirm the first impression, and shows that the stone is not a broken cross.

### (3) GASK OR SPRINGHILL.

On the top of the ridge between the Skene and Echt roads, about ten miles west of Aberdeen, two upright stone pillars may be seen standing a little apart from each other. These are the remains of a circle which formerly stood on the farm of Gask, though, owing to an alteration of boundaries, they are now attached to the farm of Springhill. Both stones are of grey granite. The southern one is a thick flat-topped stone, 6 feet 8 inches in height and 2 feet 9 inches in breadth at the base. Near the ground level it is 2 feet 3 inches thick, and narrows to 1 foot 4 inches about half-way up. The northern stone has a pointed top and measures 6 feet 3 inches in height. Its greatest breadth is near the middle, where it measures 3 feet. The thickness at the base is 2 feet 3 inches, and

it gradually decreases to about 1 foot at the top. These two stones are 47 feet apart, and as their broad sides face each other and are nearly parallel, it is probable that they stood on opposite sides of the circle, whose diameter would therefore be somewhere in the neighbourhood of



Fig. 2. Northern Standing Stone at Gask or Springhill, showing cup-marks.

50 feet. The northern stone (fig. 2) is notable for the cup-marks upon it, there being eight plain cups on its southern side facing the centre of the circle, and one rather doubtful cup and ring on the northern side near the top.

#### (4) STANDING STONES OF CULLERLIE.

About three miles south-east of the village of Echt, and two miles south of the loch of Skene, lies the farm of "Standing Stones," on the estate

of Cullerlie, in the parish of Echt. The farm derives its name from the stone circle which stands in the field to the north of the farmhouse. The circle has eight standing-stones, all in position, but there is no recumbent stone. Mr Coles, in describing the circle, draws attention to the unusual circumstance that the largest stones are found on its northern arc instead of, as is commonly the case, on the southern one. But the circle has, or rather had, another peculiarity which is found in only a few of the Aberdeenshire circles, namely, an outlying stone standing a short distance outside the circumference. This stone was removed without the proprietor's permission many years ago, but is still remembered in the district. It was an upright block about 5 feet in height, and it stood about 3 or 4 yards from the circle on the western side. Though these outlying stones occur frequently in connection with circles in the south-west of England, they are somewhat rare in Aberdeenshire. One stands to the south-east of the Shelden circle in the parish of Bourtie, near Inverurie, and another to the north-west of the Druidstown circle in the parish of Premnay, while a huge block of white quartz stands to the south-east of the Balquhain circle about three miles north of Inverurie. It is quite likely that similar outlying standing-stones were connected with other circles, but have been removed to facilitate the cultivation of the ground, as has been the case at Cullerlie.

Many of the circles in the Skene and Echt districts have suffered great dilapidation. At Wester Echt there are only three stones left standing: at South Fornet, Nether Corskie, and Gask only two: and at Balblair only a single stone remains. Three stone circles formerly stood near the base of the Barmekin of Echt, two of them on the south side and one on the north, and these three circles have entirely disappeared. The stones taken from these damaged circles seem in many cases to have been utilised as rubbing-posts for cattle, for these rubbing-posts are specially numerous in the fields of the district.

#### (5) BALNACRAIG.

About half-way between Torphins and Lumphanan stations on the Deeside railway, and about two miles from either station, is situated the farm of Balnacraig, on which the remains of a stone circle are to be found. Mr Coles during his survey was unable to ascertain the position of this circle, and so was led to infer that it had been destroyed, but this is not so. The circle has been much damaged, and is very far from being complete, but it has been in its present condition for many years. The stones lie in a small plantation on the north side of the railway, only about a hundred yards west of the farm-steading. The farm road runs



along the north side of the plantation, and from it the stones are easily seen, though the clump of trees in which they are placed hides them from the railway.

As far as can be judged from its dilapidated condition, the Balnacraig circle seems to have had an original diameter of about 45 feet. The recumbent stone which faces the south-west is a rounded massive block of reddish granite, 10 feet long, 4 feet 6 inches high, and about 3 feet thick at the broadest part. It has on its outer face six plain cup-marks—two near the centre being quite distinct, but the remaining four



Fig. 3. Northern portion of Balnacraig Stone Circle, near Torphins.

towards the western side very shallow and indistinct. Both the east and west pillars are missing. Beginning near the edge of the recumbent stone, and proceeding along the west side of the circle, there are six earth-fast stones set close to each other. These are all that remain of the stone setting, which doubtless once formed a complete circle within the ring of standing-stones. Three only of these standing-stones remain erect, two lie prostrate on the ground, and there are several fragments, which are probably portions of a broken one. With the exception of the recumbent stone, none of the standing-stones remains fully upright; they are either leaning over as if about to fall, or have already fallen.

The most striking of the standing-stones, as regards both its size and colour, is that on the north-west of the circle (fig. 3). It is a pillar of

reddish igneous rock, 5 feet 9 inches high, 3 feet 3 inches broad at its widest part, and 1 foot 5 inches thick. Its red colour contrasts finely with the green of the surrounding vegetation, and at once attracts the attention of the observer. It leans towards the outside of the circle, and looks as if at no distant day it would fall over. Its neighbour on the north leans in the opposite direction, towards the south-east. It is almost square in shape, being 3 feet 10 inches high and 3 feet 6 inches broad, but it is only 8 inches thick. A large block, 6 feet long by 2 feet 3 inches broad, lies on the south-east of the circle. The remaining stones are smaller, being all under 3 feet in length, and have more the appearance of broken pieces than of complete standing-stones. Nothing seems to be known locally of any remains having been found at any time within the area of the circle.

#### (6) INCHBAIRE CIRCLE, BIRSE, AND CORSEDARDAR STONE.

The Inchbaire circle stood about a mile below the bridge over the Dee at Potarch, and about a hundred yards west from the right bank of the river. It was a small circle, and was known as "The Worship Stones," but no details of its appearance are now available, as the stones of which it was constructed were removed about seventy years ago. It is chiefly remarkable as being the only circle known to have existed in the parish of Birse, though further down the valley of the Dee stone circles and their remains are numerous. There is, however, a standing-stone still in existence about two miles south of the Inchbaire site. It is situated near the roadside a short distance east of Finzean House, and is known as the Corshedardar Stone. It is a reddish granite block, 4 feet 6 inches high, and about 2 feet both in breadth and thickness. Tradition says it marks the spot where Dardanas, a Pictish king, was killed. He is said to have been buried under a large cairn in the neighbouring wood.

### II. NORTH KINCARDINESHIRE CIRCLES.

#### (1) INCHMARLO LODGE, BANCHORY.

On the western outskirts of Banchory-Ternan, among the trees around Inchmarlo Cottage and close to the turnpike, there stands a solitary stone, all that remains of a large circle which once occupied the site. Mr Coles describes it in his report in vol. xxxiv. of the *Proceedings*, and suggests that the curious oblong cavity near the top may have been formed to hold a modern letter-box. This, however, is not the case. The cavity was made in 1835 to contain a small marble tablet on which a couple of doggerel verses referring to the Druids were engraved. These verses were written by an eccentric inhabitant of Banchory, and were

probably suggested by the name Druid Stone, by which the block is known in the neighbourhood. The tablet was inserted during the absence of the proprietor, and without his consent, therefore on his return he had it removed, and it is now preserved at Inchmarlo.

## (2) BANCHORY-TERNAN.

A short distance to the north-east of Banchory railway station, just where the North Deeside road enters the town, there are two large stones built into the wall on the north side of the road, directly opposite the manse. Tradition says they are the remains of a circle which once stood in the neighbourhood. They, however, have more the appearance of being portions of a cist than of standing-stones removed from a circle. On the other side of the road, directly opposite these stones, there may be seen the small cross described in the *Proceedings*, vol. xlix. p. 46. It is built into the boundary wall of the manse garden, about a foot above the surface of the ground.

## (3) STANDING STONES OF DURRIS.

The parish of Durrus, or Dores as it is locally pronounced, lies on the south side of the Dee, the most convenient station for visiting its antiquities being Crathes on the Deeside railway, about fourteen miles west of Aberdeen. The district is famous for the large number of Stone Circles which it possesses. In vol. xxxiv. of the *Proceedings* five of these are described, namely, those at Clune Hill, Cairnfauld, Garrol Wood, and Eslie, at which latter place there are two, the smaller one, however, being better known as the West Mulloch Circle, since it stands close to the farmhouse of that name. But this list does not contain all the circles in the neighbourhood. On the farm of "Standing Stones" near Crossroads, in a field just below the wood which covers the top of the ridge, there are the remains of another. Though still known as the "Standing Stones," not a single stone now remains standing, all have been gathered together and thrown into a heap, which has now more the appearance of a cairn than of a circle. This cairn-like appearance has been further increased by the addition to the heap of quantities of stones gathered from the surrounding field during agricultural operations. The circle was destroyed upwards of half a century ago, when great agricultural improvements were being carried out in the district. These same improvements are doubtless responsible for the disappearance of another circle, which stood a few hundred yards west of the farmhouse of East Mulloch, and so was called the East Mulloch Circle. No trace of it now remains, unless a slight difference in the level of the ground marks its site.

## (4) TILQUHILLIE CIRCLE.

Rather more than a mile to the north-west of "Standing Stones," the remains of Tilquhillie circle are to be seen. They are situated in a field, to the south of a side road leading to Tilquhillie Castle, and are only a short distance from that building. The remains consist of the recumbent stone and west pillar only. A large stone lies on the east of the recumbent stone almost in the position which the east pillar ought to occupy, but as it had more the appearance of a boulder than of a fallen pillar, inquiry was made from the farmer. He explained that the stone had really no connection with the circle, but had been brought in quite recently from the neighbouring field, and thrown down in the vacant space so as to be out of the way.

The recumbent stone faces almost due west, being very slightly inclined towards the south. It is 3 feet 6 inches long, 2 feet 3 inches high, and 2 feet 10 inches thick. The west pillar is 5 feet 2 inches high, 3 feet 6 inches wide at base, 3 feet at the middle, and 2 feet at the top, and its average thickness is about 1 foot 8 inches. As only two stones remain in position, it is impossible to ascertain the original diameter of the circle. In the neighbouring field there is a large stone built into the dyke, and known as the Druid Stone, but if it is in its original position it could not have formed part of the circle. It may, however, have been an outlying stone similar to those found at Shelden, Balquhain, and Druidstown, but its shape renders this somewhat unlikely. The Tilquhillie circle is not marked on any map that I have seen, and I am indebted for my knowledge of it and also of the East Mulloch site to Mr A. Macdonald, M.A., of Crossroads, Durrus, whose knowledge of the antiquities of the district is extensive and accurate and most willingly given for the benefit of inquirers.

## (5) REES OF CLUNE OR CLUNE HILL CIRCLE, DURRUS.

This circle stands on the high ground in the wood to the south-west of the residence of the factor of the Durrus estate, and nearly three miles south of Park railway station. When Mr Coles visited it in 1899, the circle was so closely shut in by the surrounding plantation that it was extremely difficult to get a satisfactory survey made of it, but since that time a number of the trees have been removed and the circle is now plainly visible.

The circle consists of a recumbent stone and pillars (fig. 4) with six other stones—three of them erect and three fallen, one of the fallen stones being broken into several pieces. The recumbent stone faces the south,

its length being 9 feet 10 inches, its height varying from 2 feet to 3 feet 9 inches, and its width averaging about 2 feet 9 inches. On its outer surface there are four cup-like marks rather larger and more roughly formed than cup-marks usually are, so that it seems more likely they have been made by weathering than by human hands. The west pillar is 5 feet 6 inches high, fully 3 feet broad, and 2 feet 6 inches thick at the



Fig. 4. Rees of Clune Circle. Recumbent Stone and Pillars, as seen from outside the circle.

base, gradually decreasing to about 1 foot at the top. The east pillar is 4 feet 6 inches high, 2 feet 6 inches broad, and nearly as thick. The standing-stone next to the east pillar is 5 feet high, 3 feet broad, and 2 feet 4 inches thick. The standing-stone at the north is 5 feet 3 inches high, 2 feet 6 inches wide at its broadest part, and 2 feet thick. The remaining standing-stone at the north-west is 5 feet 6 inches high, 2 feet 6 inches broad, and varies in thickness from 1 foot 9 inches at the base to about 2 inches at the top. The greatest diameter of the circle from north-west to south-east is 58 feet, and the shortest, from the interior face of the recumbent stone to the standing-stone at the north, is 45 feet, so that the average diameter is about 50 feet.

The area within the circle is occupied by a cairn of stones with a hollow space in the centre, similar in appearance to that within the Whitehill Wood circle at Monymusk, though the hollow space is rather

larger than that at the Whitehill Wood. This cairn has a diameter of 44 feet, while that of the central hollow is 18 feet, but in both cases these measurements are only approximate, as there is no well-defined boundary either at the inner or outer portions of the cairn. Both at the Clune Hill and Whitehill Wood circles the central hollow seems to have been interfered with by excavation at some previous period, so that it has been enlarged somewhat, and the regularity of its circumference destroyed.

#### CLUNE HILL RING CAIRN.

In close connection with the circle, and almost touching its north-eastern boundary, there is another hollow-centred cairn very similar in appearance to that within the circle. Its diameter is 23 feet, just a little more than half of that within the circle, but its central hollow is much better defined. The diameter of the hollow space is 9 feet, and it is lined

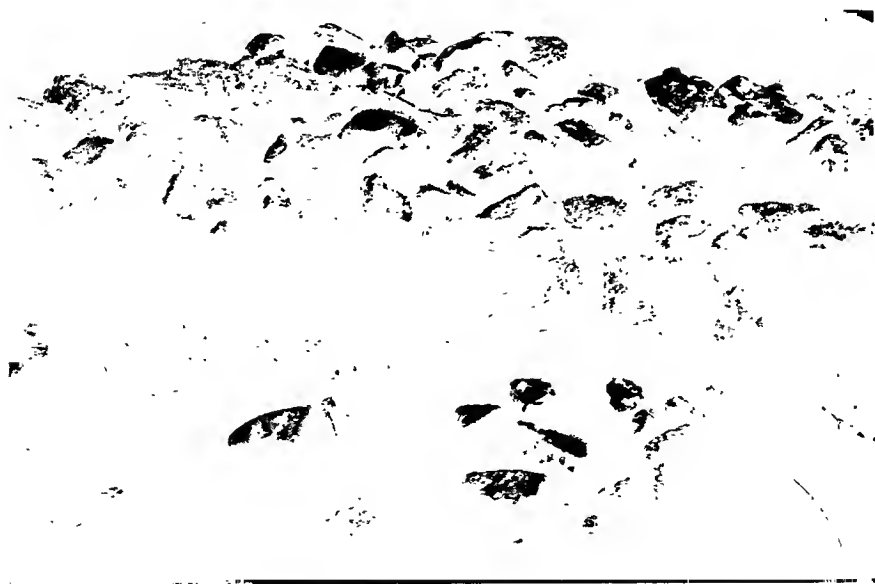


Fig. 5. Central hollow space of Clune Hill Ring Cairn.

with flat stones standing upright and serving to bind in and support the loose stones of the cairn. These upright stones have an average height of about 2 feet, and the width of the ring of small stones between the central hollow and the outside of the cairn is 7 feet (fig. 5). The height of the cairn at present is about 5 feet, but originally it was probably a little higher. If, as seems likely, its outer circumference was formerly bound in by a ring of upright stones similar to those in the centre, these are

not now visible, having either been removed or covered up by the loose stones falling from the upper portion of the heap. There seems to be no record of any remains having been found either within the stone circle or its neighbouring cairn. In the case of the cairn outside the circle, any remains which it ever contained are likely to have been damaged by the roots of a tree, which at one time grew in the central hollow, but which has now been removed.

#### SUNDAYSWELLS RING CAIRN.

The Clune Hill Cairn is not the only one of the kind in the district. Another, very similar in size and appearance, is situated a little to the

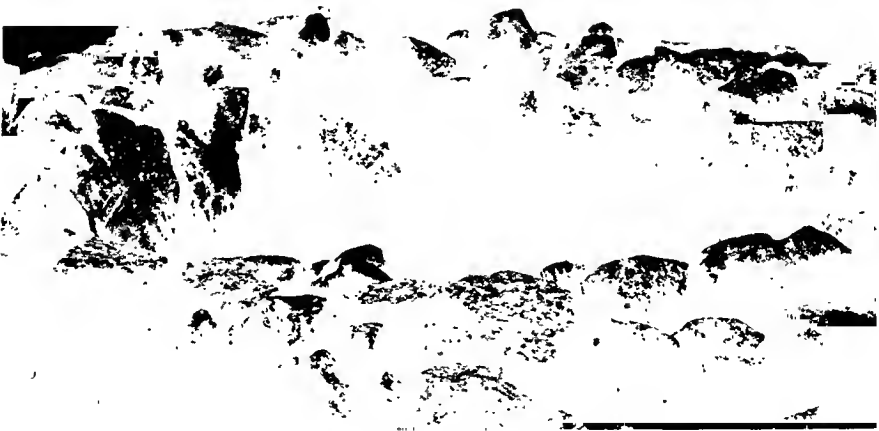


Fig. 6. Sundayswells Ring Cairn, near Torphins.

north of Torphins, on the hillside near the farm of Sundayswells, Aberdeenshire. There are no standing-stones round it, neither is there any record of a circle ever having been connected with it, the nearest one having stood at Gownieburn, on the lower ground nearly half a mile from the cairn, where only a single stone now remains.

The central hollow of the Sundayswells Cairn (fig. 6) is so like that at Clune Hill Cairn that a view of one might easily be mistaken for that of the other. The flat slabs which bound the central hollow, however, are rather more massive than those at Clune Hill Cairn, and their average height is about 3 feet. They slope slightly outwards, so that the diameter

of the hollow space at the ground level is 9 feet, while at the top it is nearly 10 feet. This central hollow was excavated about thirty years ago by the late Colonel Innes, proprietor of the estate of Learney, on which the cairn stands. A broken urn and some fragments of bones, which are still preserved at Learney House, were found within it. The excavation was carried out with great care, and no alteration was made on the appearance either of the cairn or of its central hollow. In the neighbourhood of the Sundayswells Cairn there are numerous smaller cairns, probably tumuli, scattered for a considerable distance along the hillside, and in the valley to the west of the hill is the farm of Boginchapel, where, according to tradition, there was at one time an ancient place of worship.

It is greatly to be regretted that so much damage has been done to the stone circles in this district. Not a single one of those described in this paper is intact; many of them consist of only a few stones, and some have entirely disappeared. In several instances the harm has been done thoughtlessly by the tenant, without the permission, or even the knowledge, of the landlord, and when the mischief was discovered it was too late to be remedied. The danger of damage would be very much lessened, if not altogether prevented, by the insertion of a clause in each lease prohibiting the tenant from interfering in any way with antiquarian remains on his farm. We are really trustees in this matter for future generations. These remains have been preserved and handed down to us by past generations, and it is only our duty in like manner to pass them on to our descendants, for, if once destroyed, they can never be replaced.



## III.

## A SURVEY OF THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS OF SKIPNESS.

BY CAPTAIN ANGUS GRAHAM. F.S.A.Scot.

## INTRODUCTORY.

1. This paper came to be written in the following way. Before the war the Ordnance Survey Department applied to local authorities for information regarding any ancient monuments in their districts that were not already marked on the Ordnance maps, and I undertook lightly to "make a list of" the things in this neighbourhood that deserved mention. (The list that I contemplated then would probably have contained one fort, one cup-marked and one standing stone, with possibly two ruined cists.) The thought of a list, however, set me looking about a little, and then all kinds of unexplained objects began at once to thrust themselves into notice; so that it soon became clear that even the small district round Skipness contained enough antiquities of one sort or another—though mostly a humble sort—to justify a full and systematic examination of them. I then formed the plan of exploring the district, which I already knew well, in great detail, so as to be able to make such an exhaustive list of its antiquities as would allow arguments from numbers and distribution, and also from negative evidence. This intention, of course, turned out to be hopelessly optimistic, and experience has persuaded me that one could never guarantee the exhaustiveness of any inventory of this sort that was made under such conditions of ground as exist in the West Highlands. For whereas in country like the Lothians, for instance, all small remains of earthwork and stone have been destroyed long ago in the course of agriculture and improvements to land, so that only the solid, large, and obvious things are left, in Argyll one has to pick out lumps of stone and turf ruins, generally overgrown with bracken and heather, from hillsides that are themselves a mass of heather, bracken, and grey boulders. Consequently I cannot guarantee that nothing has been missed; but though this inventory may not be complete, it is quite long enough to show how many hard questions may arise on a few square miles of ground which at first seem barren.

2. A few words are now necessary as to the method of the paper. Each monument has a serial number, the series running from north to south; but in the descriptive text the monuments of each kind are classed together under headings, and those under each heading are treated

according to their natural grouping in valleys or other localities. A map is attached (figs. 1 and 2), on which everything is marked by its serial number. This map is taken from the 1-inch Ordnance map (sheets 20, 28, and 29), and is only intended to give approximately accurate information for the elucidation of the paper. In order to find anything on the ground, use should be made of the 6-inch Ordnance map, 2nd edition, 1900 (sheets 192 SW., 202, 212 NE. and SE., 213, 224 NE., 225 NW.). The map-references in the text are for this edition, and have been given in sufficient detail for this purpose.

3. I have tried to err on the side of including too much rather than too little, so as to miss no chance of suggesting a fruitful comparison or providing a warning to the unwary—for example, by describing a structure that looks archaic enough, but turns out in the end to be nothing but a late survival of a primitive type. Also, for the sake of possible sidelights, I have occasionally inserted notes of local tradition or such other subsidiary matter as appeared to be relevant.

For the sake of completeness I have not confined myself to noting only new discoveries, but have mentioned also things that were known of before, with references to the works describing them.

Before describing the antiquities of this part of Kintyre it will be well to give a general account of the district itself. The position and outline of the peninsula can be grasped in one glance at a map of Scotland. It consists of a single ridge lying between two troughs filled by the sea, with a water-parting between east and west running along its whole length. The hills that form it are for the most part between 1000 and 1300 feet high. The north-east end of the peninsula consists of a steep and sudden slope falling to a coast-line that is nearly straight, so that it shows, as it were, a section of Kintyre as cut by the glacier of Loch Fyne.

The area in which these investigations were made is the east part of the north end of the peninsula. It is thus bounded on the east by Loch Fyne and Kilbraman Sound, and on the landward side by a line drawn from the head of East Loch Tarbert to the top of Cruach an tSorchain, following the main water-parting from there as far as the top of Fuar Laraeh, and from there running eastwards to Cnoc Reamhar, and the sea at Eascairt Point. (This explanation may be followed on the map on which the monuments are marked.) These boundaries enclose about thirty square miles of country, and this I will describe in greater detail.

The sea face from East Loch Tarbert to Skipness pier consists of a very steep slope covered with scrub-wood and much broken up by ravines and precipitous rocks; small crofts have, however, been cultivated upon it here and there. About Skipness Point and Bay there is flatter ground, which supports a village and permits some arable farming; inland the

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ground rises for about four miles in a succession of hills, which are cut through by the basin of a fair-sized fork-headed burn. Farther towards the west there is another considerable burn that runs out below Claonaig; the valley of this burn makes a marked break across the peninsula, and there is some good farming land in it. Its tributary, the Larachmor burn, forms another basin that was inhabited until recent times. South-west of Claonaig the coast is rather steep and woody, but there is a considerable amount of workable land.

The hills in all this area are heathery, and support only black-faced sheep; but in the old days black cattle were kept on them. Above the 1000-foot contour the ground is very rocky and inhospitable. The lower hillsides are covered with a layer of boulder clay, through which the larger burns have cut deep valleys. There is no good harbour in this coast between Tarbert and Carradale, though there are bays and beaches here and there which lend themselves to fishing and other seafaring on a small scale.

#### INVENTORY.

The headings under which the monuments have been classified are as follows:—

- (A) Mediæval Buildings.<sup>1</sup>
- (B) Hill Forts.
- (C) Turf Huts.
- (D) Burial Places.
- (E) Stones.
- (F) Miscellaneous.

#### (A) MEDIEVAL BUILDINGS.

No. 1. *Tarbert Castle*.—This castle is described by Messrs M'Gibbon and Ross in *Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland* (Edinburgh, 1887), vol. i. pp. 136-142.

*Skipness Castle*.—This castle is described by Messrs M'Gibbon and Ross, *op. cit.*, vol. iii. pp. 63-72. The account given there might be amplified in many ways, but a full description and discussion would develop into a complete paper by itself, and cannot be attempted here.

*Kilbrannan Chapel*.—A description of this chapel and its carved stones, with drawings, is to be found in *Archæological Sketches in Scotland (Kintyre)*, by Captain T. P. White, R.E. (Edinburgh, 1873), pp. 180-186. It is also described by M'Gibbon and Ross under "Skipness Castle" (*q.v.*).

*Note*.—For the history of these three buildings and of the district in

<sup>1</sup> This title is given without prejudice to the question of the date of some of the turf huts.

general, reference should be made to the Bannatyne Club's publication, *Origines Parochiales Scotiæ* (Edinburgh, 1854), vol. ii., part i., pp. 27-36.

(B) HILL FORTS.

No. 73. *Dùn Breac*.—A description of this fort, with the results of a partial excavation, has been published in the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, vol. xlix. p. 50.

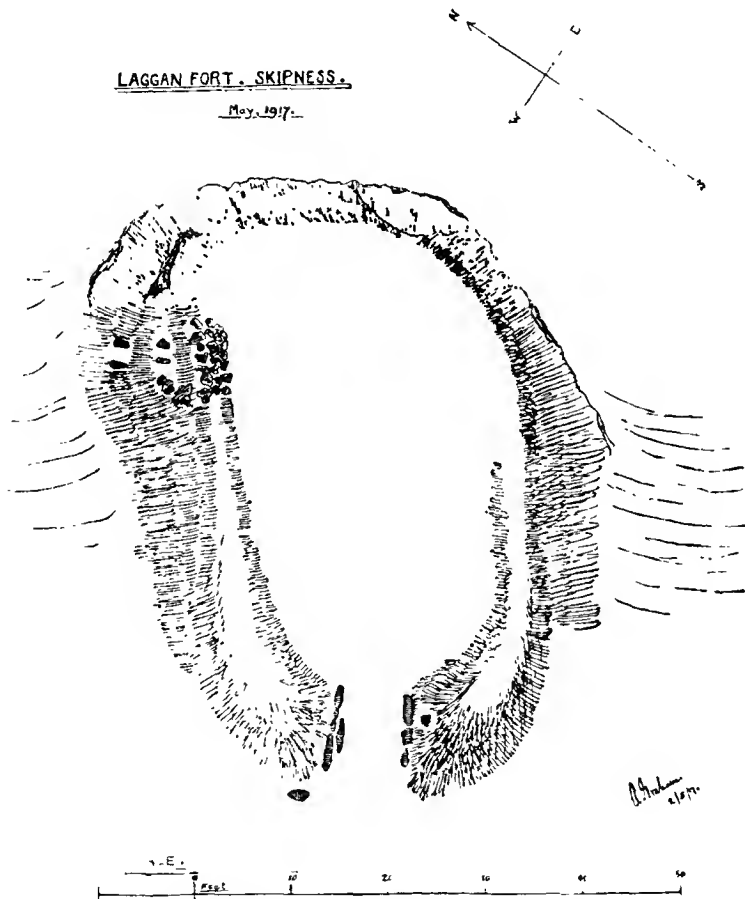


Fig. 3. Fort, Sliabh nan Dearg. (No. 63.)

No. 63. *Laggan Fort*.—This small fort (fig. 3) lies on the lower slopes of Sliabh nan Dearg, at spot-level 285. The site is formed by a rock which crops up in the side of a small glen so as to form an abrupt bluff towards the north and east, but connected with the main hillside on the

south-west at the general level. The top of the knoll has been flattened and the north side has been built up with a certain amount of masonry to make the slope steeper. The wall has been built round the edge of the resulting flat area, forming an oval enclosure the longer axis of which lies approximately north-east and south-west. The thickness of the wall is not easy to determine, as in the greater part of the circuit it is level with the surface of the interior, and only the outer face can be made out. It is covered with turf all round, and no part of it rises so much as a foot above the interior surface. But as far as one can judge, it was 5 feet or 6 feet thick except at the entrance, where it swelled to 12 feet. This entrance is 6 feet broad at its inner end and 7 feet 4 inches at the outside: it is flanked with upright slabs of stone, the size and position of which can be seen on the plan. The direction in which it points is roughly south-west. In addition to this entrance there seems to have been a smaller one on the north side, as there are two pairs of upright slabs standing one above the other on that part of the mound which appears to have been built up, or at least faced with masonry, and where there is a kind of small terrace. The space between the slabs is 2 feet in each case, and they evidently marked a path up the side of the knoll. Unfortunately the wall at this point is quite levelled, and so no traces of any entrance corresponding with this path can be seen. Something might appear on excavation.

The defensive character of this ruin is apparent both from the choice of site, which is bounded by steep slopes on the three sides, and also from the fact that the walls are doubled in thickness (and therefore were probably increased in height) on the side that is not so defended by nature.

I believe that this is the smallest prehistoric fortification of this type that has been recorded.

#### (C) TURF HUTS.

*Preliminary Note.*—Before passing to this section of the paper I must make a short explanation. I have found the district to be full of the remains of very small buildings of turf, or turf and stone, sometimes standing singly but more often in groups. They are always in a very dilapidated state; I do not know of a single case in which the wall stands more than 2 feet high. They are of various shapes and sizes; round, oval, square, oblong, oblong with rounded corners, or irregular; they may also be single, or subdivided into two or three rooms; while others, again, consist of two adjacent circles not communicating with one another. The doorways are always very narrow, and are often flanked by slabs of stone; and they are sometimes placed in the corner of rectangular huts.

The most singular feature of the whole series is their small size, the largest only measuring 18 feet 6 inches by 6 feet 6 inches internally, while some of the smallest circles are as little as 4 feet in diameter. Their general appearance is very primitive indeed, but local tradition says that some at least of them were in use as shielings within the memory of the last generation. More material will be available for a discussion of their probable origin and age after the several examples have been described.

No. 57.—This group of hut-circles lies on a bluff that projects into Glen Skibble from the east, and forms a loop in the burn about 900 yards below Glenskibble House. The huts are thirty-three in number, and appear as rings of turf wall standing about a foot high, and are generally founded on a low mound. Some are built together in twos or threes, but there are no inside doorways leading from one to the other in these cases. Most of the huts are circular or oblong, with inside diameters varying from 4 feet to 12 feet. The walls are 2 feet or 3 feet thick. The entrances are narrow (2 feet to 3 feet), and are often flanked with slabs of stone on edge. They do not appear to point in any single and uniform direction. The plan shows that they are placed haphazard, though half of them are on the lip of the scaurs.

This colony of huts is said to have been used up till recent times as an "airidh," or shieling. In summer the cattle grazed on the hill, and women were sent to live in the huts for the purposes of cheese-making. The larger huts were inhabited, and the smaller ones were used for storing the cheeses.

No. 55.—On the left side of Glen Skibble, about 70 yards south of point 469, there is a large group of very much dilapidated huts. They are built close together and hard against the turf dyke that bounds an old croft, in such a way as to suggest that they were the buildings belonging to the croft. There is another single one on the edge of the glen 100 yards north-west of point 402, which should probably be classed with them.

No. 59.—This group of huts is situated on both banks of the unnamed right tributary of the Skipness river that joins it between the "r" and the "i" of "river," the upper part of the group extending as far as the next tributary towards the south. The best of the huts are at about point 322. The huts are mostly round, resembling those in No. 57; one is a long rectangle divided into three square rooms, and another, also rectangular, is divided into a large and small room, like a modern cottage with a byre. Pieces of iron-slag have been found within the area of this group. The account of the excavation of one of the huts is appended.



*Note on Excavation.*

The hut chosen for excavation is of an irregular oblong shape, and measures 6 feet 6 inches by 5 feet 6 inches internally. The entrance, which faces approximately WNW., is 1 foot 6 inches broad, and is flanked on one side by a flat stone set on edge. The wall, or rather the ridge formed by the ruin of the wall, is about 2 feet high in its south part, but barely shows itself on the north, except in the lump through which the trench was dug. It is about 4 feet broad.

The excavation showed that the wall was built entirely of turf, and that it was founded on a natural ridge of rock on the south side, and on a kind of causeway of flat stones (2 feet 4 inches broad) on the north side. The old floor extended right up to this causeway and rock ridge, so that the original internal breadth must have been 7 feet before the falling walls encroached inwards upon the floor space. The trench was dug straight across the middle of the interior area, and disclosed the following strata. About 5 inches below the surface of the ground there was a layer of reddish-grey clay 6 inches thick, which may or may not have been a floor. It was full of small spots of an iron deposit, and grew darker towards the bottom. Below it was a layer 1 inch to 3 inches thick of hard black earth and fibrous material—probably the remains of peat. This rested directly on the surface of the rock that lies under the site. In this black stratum were a great many lumps of iron-slag and raw ore, also a good deal of charred wood and some pieces of broken bone that were too small to identify. There were no pot-sherds or manufactured articles. All over the upper side of this lowest stratum there lay a thick crust of ferruginous deposit about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick, that seemed to have been laid down on the floor like stalagnite, fitting itself round any projecting lumps. Near the walls it was particularly solid, and comparatively large pieces could be lifted away intact.

No. 58.—This is a group of twelve huts that resemble those of No. 59 closely. It lies on the right bank of a small burn that joins the Skipness river just above the loop mentioned under No. 57, about 230 yards above the junction.

No. 48.—One small round hut just above the trees on the left bank of the unnamed burn that joins Garbh Allt 450 yards WNW. of Glenskibble House.

No. 47.—A rounded rectangular hut (9 feet by 6 feet) and a small circle, close together, on the left side of Garbh Allt, 80 yards south-west of spot-level 478.

No. 45.—The colony of huts placed under this number extends, in groups, from above the gorge at the final "n" in "Eas a Chromain" to

the junction of its long right tributary, mainly on the right bank. There are also indications of others along the lower stretch of this tributary. They show the usual diversities of shape, size, and state of repair; two having been partly undermined and washed away by the burn. On the whole, little stone is used in their construction. At about the "h" of "Chromain" there is a large pool under a waterfall; this pool has been dammed up at some time, and there is a hut, partly dug out, on the bank close by. The water does not seem to have been led into the building in any way, but it is worth while to notice the existence here of water-works of some kind, as other examples will be quoted later (*cf.* No. 53). One hut is built on the usual plan of a small circle inside a larger one: they are not concentric, and the walls coalesce on one side.

No. 45A.—These four huts lie along some 60 yards of the right bank of the long right tributary of Eas a Chromain, in the stretch immediately above the angle of the burn that occurs 80 yards north-east of point 536. They are much dilapidated.

No. 43.—This settlement of nineteen huts lies at the junction of the unnamed burn 400 yards south of Allt Carn Chaluim, with Gleann Baile na hUamha. It consists of three groups. The first group lies on a knoll in the angle below the junction of the burns, and contains two rectangular huts (one subdivided), one oblong hut of irregular shape, and three circles with a diameter of 6 feet. One of the rectangular huts measures 9 feet by 6 feet. There is also a small circle, 4 feet in diameter, 50 yards away on the edge of the burn. There is a path, marked with upright stones, leading down the side of the knoll to a crossing-place in the smaller burn. The second group is on the opposite side of the main burn. It consists of two rectangular huts (10 feet by 8 feet and 12 feet by 6 feet respectively), with doorways marked by upright stones, and two small circles and one larger one of the usual type. The third group lies 100 yards away to the SSE., higher up the slope. It consists of one small rectangle like those of the other groups, two squares with sides 7 feet long, one very small irregular oblong built against the face of a boulder, and two large ovals. One of these ovals (*fig. 4*) is remarkable, as the wall is 4 feet thick for the greater part of the circuit, but swells to 9 feet on the left side of the doorway. This thickening does not interrupt the curve of the outside of the wall, but covers part of the floor-space, as is shown on the plan. This may be the result of a large part of the ruined wall having fallen in one heap, but it is not unlike a type of hut that has been noted in Sutherland by the Ancient Monuments Commission, in which there is an earth-house underneath a thickening of the wall at one side of the door. But it is considerably smaller than the examples from Sutherland.

A remarkable feature of this colony is the association of the cup-

marked stone described under No. 44 with the first group mentioned above. It is embedded in the east face of the hillock, just below one of the circular huts. The stone is described under its own heading (*q.v.*), but it is necessary to consider here what light it throws on the huts, if indeed



Fig. 4. Hut-circle with thickened wall, Gleann Baile na hUamha. (No. 43.)

it is not equally in need of illumination itself. The following alternatives are possible:—

- (a) That there is no connection between the stone and the huts.
- (b) That the round huts of the group (if not also the rectangular ones which contain a good percentage of stone) are of great antiquity.
- (c) That people continued to make cup-markings on stones down to the comparatively recent times when airidh were in use.

Of these alternatives, (a) is hard to believe; (b) is not impossible in view of discoveries elsewhere, and is perhaps supported by the contrast of the two types of hut in the same group; (c) is belied by the badly-weathered condition of the cups, and is contrary to one's preconceived ideas. However, preconceived ideas on such obscure subjects may be misleading, and I believe that superstitions exist in some places concerning large stones standing near houses. On the whole, I am inclined to favour (b).

No. 41.—There is another group, consisting of at least twelve round huts, mostly small, between the bottom of Allt Carn Chaluim and the building (a fank) that is marked about 200 yards to the north of it.

*Note.*—This group and No. 43 are no doubt what are referred to in the name Gleann Baile na hUamha, as otherwise there are no "caves" in this glen.

No. 3.—This group is close to the right bank of the unnamed burn which flows into the sea 370 yards south-east of Tarbert pier, at the point where it is crossed by the Tarbert-Skipness path. It consists of a round hut 6 feet in diameter, on a rocky knoll; a small enclosure, formed by a turf wall built as an irregular bow against a face of rock; and an oval hut 8 feet by 5 feet, which differs from the majority in that the outline of the wall—which has faded away almost altogether—is marked by five flat stones fixed upright on their edges.

No. 5.—This hut lies above the right bank of the burn mentioned under the last number, at a point 400 yards higher on its course. The position is a commanding one, which gives wide observation to north and east; it is very like the site of No. 17. The hut is round and has a diameter of 8 feet.

No. 6.—This hut is on a rocky hillock that lies in the flat between No. 5 and Cnoc Breac, and can be easily seen from the Tarbert-Skipness path. It is round, diameter 6 feet. There are the remains of two others, hardly noticeable, a few yards to the west.

No. 7.—This oblong building was a house of the larger size, as one reckons turf houses, but the foundations were too much faded for accurate measurement. It lies on the left bank of the right fork of the burn that runs out north of Eilean a Chomraig, between the path and spot-level 384.

No. 8.—These very faint traces of a group of huts lie 100 yards east of the point where the path crosses the burn, as under the last number.

No. 11.—The traces of this group of small round huts were too faint to measure. They lie on a knoll that forms part of the north end of Creag na Cairte (height 150 feet), and are associated with a large "platform."

There are another large hut and small platform 30 feet below them. (For the rest of this ground see under "Platforms.")

No. 12.—This is a single round hut on the left bank of the short unnamed burn that runs out immediately south of Rudha Clach an Traghaidh, and at a height of 300 feet.

No. 13.—Near the head of the burn mentioned under the last number (height 530 feet) there is an interesting group. A triangular hollow has been dug out of the left bank of the burn (length 12 yards, base 7 yards): the length lies parallel to the burn, and a ditch drains from the apex, which is downhill, into it. Beside this hollow are the stone foundations of a house, 13 feet by 8 feet; a little higher up there is another, also of stone, 11 feet by 5 feet, and a round turf hut. On the right bank there are two adjoining circles, of 5 feet 6 inches diameter. The small size of these buildings is noteworthy, as they are of stone.

No. 14.—This group consists of one longish rectangular hut and two circular ones. They lie on the left bank of the unnamed burn next to the north of Eas Mor (height 470 feet). Another hut (circular, diameter 6 feet) lies 30 yards to the north: it is peculiar in that it is built on a "platform."

No. 15.—This group of at least six huts, oblong and round, but much faded, stretches down the bluff on the right side of the burn mentioned under the last number, from the same level.

No. 16.—This is an oblong hollow indicating the site of a vanished turf house; it lies 50 yards from the right bank of Eas Mor, at about the "o" of "Mor." It is associated with a "platform."

No. 18.—This group lies in the loop of Allt Airidh nan Cuilean, at spot-level 511. There are the remains of a rectangular turf cottage and a small round hut on the right bank, and of a large oblong hut on a mound on the left bank.

No. 17.—There are faint traces of two small round huts on the hill-top 150 yards to the NNE. of No. 18. This would be an ideal site for a look-out post, and most unsuitable for any other kind of building, whether for the use of men or animals.

No. 19.—This is a round hut (diameter 8 feet) lying beside the path at a point 400 yards south-east of No. 16. There are traces of a "platform" near it.

No. 25.—There is a roughly circular hut, built against two boulders, 100 yards ESE. of Seanlaggan House.

No. 26.—This group is on the left bank of the left fork of the burn that runs out at Fionn Port (height 480 feet). It contains one oblong hut, 10 feet by 6 feet, one large square, and four circles.

No. 28.—This is a group of four huts of the "cottage" type, *i.e.* rect-

angular, subdivided inside, and of dimensions up to 15 feet by 8 feet. They stand on the easternmost of the burns that run down to Fionn Port, at a height of about 600 feet above the sea. One is close to the burn, and the others are close together 50 yards up the hillside.

No. 29.—There are very faint traces of a number of huts on the left bank of a small tributary that is marked as joining the right branch of the Fionn Port burn on its left. The tributary is much longer than one would suppose from the indication on the map, and the huts are fully 250 yards from the junction, at a height of 680 feet.

No. 24.—This is an oval area, 9 feet by 5 feet, enclosed by lumps of stone and a short length of turf walling. It is very like No. 3, and was probably a hut. It lies about 130 yards ESE. of spot-level 174, and is close to a platform (No. 24A).

*N.B.*—It is almost impossible to describe the positions of things in this region adequately owing to a lack of detail in the map.

No. 20.—This house stands on the bluff to the east of Fionn Port, about 150 yards to the south of spot-level 11. Though it seems to be built of turf only—so far as one can judge from the foundations—it is 27 feet long and 10 feet broad. But this length includes the breadth of the partitions, as it is divided into three interior rooms and an annexe.

No. 22.—This is a round hut, diameter 7 feet. It can be found most easily from the conspicuous stone No. 21 (*q.v.*), which is about 60 feet below it.

No. 27.—This group contains two huts and one house. The foundations of the latter are principally of stone, and it is 21 feet long, but it possesses primitive characteristics in the breadth, which is only 8 feet, and the doorways, which are 18 inches broad and are flanked with stone slabs in the style of the turf huts. Of the huts in the group, one, much faded, is a double circle, and the other is a square hut standing inside a rectangular enclosure, also of turf, measuring 21 feet by 30 feet. The site is 170 yards north-west of Lagganroaig House.

No. 31.—On the left bank of Allt Gamlina, at the bend by the second "1" of "Allt," there is a round hut (diameter 5 feet 6 inches) on and forming the top of a small mound. A square room (side 8 feet) is built against it on the east side, but there is no passage between, and the square room lies 4 feet lower at the bottom of the mound.

No. 33.—This hut is about 300 yards north of No. 35, by the left side of an unmarked burn. It is round (diameter 8 feet).

No. 35.—This is a group of small circular huts, standing on a knoll on the left side of the unnamed burn that runs down to Camas na Ceardaich, at a height of about 680 feet above sea-level. (*Note.*—In this group two of the huts are well marked, while the remainder can only just be made

out, and a similar difference appears in most of the groups. If this is due to a difference in age, the astonishing number of the huts would be partly explained, as all would not necessarily have been occupied at the same time.)

*N.B.*—In describing the huts under the following numbers the four burns that are shown on the map between Allt Coire Laraich and Allt Gamhna are distinguished by the letters A, C, D, and E, taken in order from south to north. Another, to be called B, is not shown, but runs out close to the mouth of C.

No. 32.—This group of huts lies on the left bank of E burn, just above the path. The lowest of them consists of a rectangular room, 8 feet by 6 feet, dug into the side of a small knoll, the remainder of which provides it with a wall fully 8 feet thick on its eastern or downhill side. The inner face of the wall so formed is revetted with rough stonework, and stands 3 feet above the floor. The other walls are of turf with some stones, and do not stand so high. The entrance is 2 feet 6 inches broad. There is an annexe on the upper side, but it is much too faded for measurement. There are two other rectangular huts above this one, measuring 8 feet by 5 feet, and 8 feet by 6 feet respectively. The entrances of all these huts face north. At a higher level again there is an enclosure, 26 feet by 11 feet 6 inches; the material is turf mixed with stones, and there is an entrance 2 feet broad in each long side. There is a partition 6 feet from the eastern end, and the ground at that end has been brought up to a level artificially; but, apart from these two features, it is more like an enclosure than the foundations of a house. This group may be connected with the industry of the "platforms."

No. 38.—This hut lies on the right bank of the C burn, at a height of about 80 feet. It is an oblong house, 20 feet by 12 feet; the wall contains a good deal of stone, is about 3 feet thick, and stands 2 feet high in parts. This house is part of a group of platforms, No. 38A (*q.v.*).

No. 39.—This hut is on the left of B burn, just below the path, height 190 feet. It is round, diameter 6 feet.

No. 40.—This group is on the left side of Allt Coire Laraich, 100 yards west of spot-level 400. It consists of two small circles and an oblong cottage (10 feet by 6 feet), with a partition.

No. 42.—At the head of the south branch of Allt Airidh Fhuair, left bank, there are the remains of a rectangular hut built against a turf dyke.

No. 68.—At the top of Cnoc Moine Raibeirt there are traces of an oval hut (9 feet by 6 feet) and a circle 5 feet in diameter. (See under "Bloomeries.")

No. 60.—These huts are on the slopes of Sliabh nan Dearg, 120 yards

south-west of B.M. 510·4. The less ruined of them stands on a knoll that seems to be artificial; the entrance faces south-west, and is flanked on one side by the usual stone slab. The other has been cut through by an old track, long disused, that leads to a peat-lag on the top of the hill. This fact points to a respectable antiquity for this hut, as it must have been ruined before the road was made.

No. 62.—In the angle of the turf dykes 250 yards north-west of point 168 there is a dilapidated group of small turf buildings; but in their present condition they cannot be distinguished from one another or measured.

No. 69.—One round hut, 5 feet in diameter, just north of the wall-junction south of point 123 (Port a Chruidh).

No. 89.—This hut stands on a small knoll on the right bank of the unnamed burn that runs close to the east side of Claonaig Inn. This burn rises much higher up the hill than the map indicates; the hut is at a point about 30 yards above the turf dyke that is represented as crossing the valley exactly at the burn's source. The hut appears to be of pure turf, measures 9 feet by 7 feet, and has traces of a partition.

No. 90.—This is a group of three stone huts situated close to No. 89. They had been mined in such a way that their largest stones presented the appearance of cist-graves, for which they were at first mistaken.

No. 78.—This small and much faded hut lies on the right bank of the unnamed right tributary of the Claonaig Water that joins it at "Ford," about 150 yards above the junction.

No. 96.—There are the remains of a rectangular building, 18 feet by 10 feet, in the corner between Allt an Cille and the turf dyke that lies above the "site of burial-ground." It is larger than a hut, and perhaps was not a roofed building at all; but it is worth mentioning on account of its proximity to the alleged burial-ground (No. 95).

No. 88.—This is a round hut 8 feet in diameter. It lies on the right side of a small trickle of water at a point 150 yards WSW. of the ruined house (unnamed) that is itself 300 yards west of the "g" of "Claonaig Water." I had heard that there was a bloomery near this spot, and a rabbit-scape in the wall of the hut disclosed a quantity of charcoal, but I could find no slag.

No. 87.—About 250 yards north-west of the last (No. 88) there is a circular hut 8 feet in diameter, with an annexe.

No. 81.—This hut, oval in shape and extremely faded, lies 50 yards east of the angle of the turf dyke that runs from Auchavae to Allt nan Capull, at a point 300 yards north of the former.

No. 61.—This mound, which is shown to be the remains of a hut by the arrangement of the stones on the top of it, is on the left bank of Allt an tSocaich, about 650 yards due east of point 609. There seems to have



been a turf wall forming a small enclosure round the mound on the side away from the burn.

No. 46.—This group, which is really a considerable village, lies on both banks of Abhainn Leum nam Meann above and below its junction with Allt Ruadh. The locality is a hanging valley of triangular shape enclosed and overhung by Coire nan Capull, Cruach Tarsuinn, and Hill 849; it is nearly level and rather mossy, while the hillsides rise above and fall away from it in comparatively steep steps. The huts that are still recognisable are about forty-eight in number, and others have no doubt existed in the past which have now faded into indistinguishable mounds. The site is a full half-mile long, the lowest hut being 250 yards below the junction of the burns, and the highest one 650 yards above it. The village is not altogether continuous, but consists of irregular groups or clusters, with gaps and single huts between them. The huts themselves are similar, in general, to those that have been described in connection with other sites; in the following points, however, individual characteristics may be found. (*a*) The majority appear to be built either entirely of stone or with an unusually great proportion of stone in the walls for strengthening purposes. (*b*) The oblong plan is much commoner than the round. (*c*) Very small circles, such as are found in Glen Skibble, are absent. (*d*) Double huts are rare, and there is only one example with three rooms. Except for these points, the dimensions, shapes, and appearance are normal: the doorways, in particular, conform to the usual type, being very narrow and usually flanked with upright slabs.

About the origin and date of this village no more is known than about any of the other similar settlements. The solid stonework of some of the huts gives an impression of modernity which may be quite mistaken, as turf huts do exist alongside of the stone ones, and some of them are far gone in decay. A point worthy of notice is the fact that in two cases at least the burn has undermined and carried away its bank at places where huts stood upon it, so that part of the wall has been involved in the subsidence. On the face of it, this fact suggests a considerable passage of time; on the other hand, these hill burns are liable to violent spates, and the soft clay soil of the place would not resist erosion to any great extent. It is, therefore, probably not necessary to allot more than a century or two for the operation of this process.

As far as excavation goes, it was possible to lay bare a section of the ground under one of the huts that had partly subsided and examine the strata that appeared in it. At a depth of about 2 feet below the present level of the ground outside the hut there was a layer of flat stones more or less fitted together, as if to form a roughly paved floor; charcoal and

black earth were packed in between them. Above these stones was a layer of discoloured greyish soil 8 inches thick, in which there was some charcoal in small fragments. On this stratum lay a thick layer of iron pan; above which was a further 5 inches of earth which was only noticeably discoloured at the extreme top, and which was again covered with a layer of iron pan, but not such a thick one as before. There was a very little charcoal in this upper stratum, in the discoloured portion. No bones or relics appeared, but only a very small piece of the floor-stratum was cleared.

One more point remains to be noted in connection with this village, and that is its connection with an existing place-name. The word "tarsuinn" (across, athwart) appears at first to be rather unmeaning as applied to the hill already mentioned; it is not "across" a pass or frequented route, and is not, in fact, a hill that enters into ordinary people's calculations at all. However, to an inhabitant of this village Cruach Tarsuinn must have been a very familiar thing indeed, and the sight of it stretching across and closing the head of the valley would very naturally suggest the epithet "tarsuinn" to anyone coming up the valley to the village. This origin for the name may therefore be compared with those suggested elsewhere in this paper for "Gleann Baile na hUamha" and "Camas na Ceardaich."

No. 80.—This hut is on a bluff that stands out of the north bank of Loch Crinne about 150 yards from the east end.

No. 79.—This group consists of two oblong huts (17 feet by 7 feet 6 inches and 18 feet by 8 feet) and faint traces of a small square or circle. It stands on a knoll 80 yards north of Garveorine houses, between the burn and the old road. It is worth noticing in this connection that the land of "Garworle," "Garforling," or "Garwoling" is mentioned in deeds of the years 1495, 1511, and 1549 (*cf.* reference above to *Origines Parochiales Scotiæ*). None of the existing stone buildings is likely to be as old as four hundred years, and it is possible that the farmhouse of the Middle Ages may have been something like these huts which stood so close to the modern site.

No. 91.—This group lies on both sides of a right tributary of the Larachmor burn that flows in midway between spot-levels 309 and 328. (The tributary is marked on the revised map of 1898, but not on the original survey of 1867.) It consists of five two-roomed huts and four single ones of medium size and rounded-rectangular plan. These huts are in fair preservation and are largely of stone. One has two doorways almost opposite one another, in the longer sides. There are also faint traces of three other huts, which have almost disappeared—probably because they were made of turf without stone.

A small piece of smelted iron was found in a rabbit-scraping in the side of a mound that lies beside one of these huts.

No. 93.—The exact number of huts in this group cannot be made out, nor their dimensions, as most of them have faded away; but there remain three small circles, and eleven mounds which must originally have had a number of larger huts on them. They stand on both sides of the Larachmor burn, about 150 yards below the point where the parish boundary leaves it and strikes across the hill towards Loch Crinne.

No. 99.—This group consists of three huts: one of them a small rounded rectangle, and the other two faded to the barest traces. The site is at point 468, on the right bank of the right tributary of the Larachmor burn that flows in at point 381.

No. 92.—This group contains two oval huts (10 feet by 5 feet), and an oblong and a circular hut standing end to end. The latter measure 11 feet by 8 feet and 4 feet in diameter respectively. They stand on the south-west side of a small burn (not marked on the map) that runs parallel to and not far from the parish boundary fence which crosses the hill from the Larachmor burn to Loch Crinne. The huts are about 600 yards up the hill from the burn.

No. 97.—About 600 yards south of the last group there is a square hut with rounded corners (side 10 feet) and a circle (diameter 5 feet 6 inches) standing on a shoulder above the upper of two stone houses that are marked, without names, in a blank area WNW. of point 423 on the Larachmor burn. This square hut appears to have had much more stone in its walls than is usual; and it is noticeable that at the same time the breadth is greater than in the case of other huts that are built of turf only. Probably the broader and heavier roof was made possible by the stronger and more solid wall: in purely stone houses, again, the breadth is usually between 12 feet and 15 feet, irrespective of the length of the house.

No. 104.—This is a group of five small round huts standing on the right bank of the Larachmor burn about 1000 yards north-east of No. 112 and between spot-levels 510 and 475. There are also three larger huts on the left bank 100 yards to 150 yards downstream.

No. 107.—This group lies at point 519 on the Larachmor burn, at the junction of a short unnamed right tributary. On the two banks of the tributary itself there are a double house, 17 feet by 7 feet, with a thick partition; a large oval (13 feet by 6 feet) possessing the usual narrow entrance (18 inches) flanked with slabs; and a small faded circle. The burn has undermined and carried away part of both the latter. In the angle of the main burn (left bank) there are a large circle (8 feet in diameter), a small one, and traces of other building. There is also a

rectangular hollow or dugout, excavated into a bank beside an old stone and turf dyke, which forms one of its sides; the other side and end are revetted with stonework. This dugout is 11 feet long, 7 feet broad, and 3 feet 6 inches deep from the ground level—or 5 feet from the top of the dyke. A few yards lower on the right bank are a small circle and a larger and much faded oval, which has been cut into by the burn. In the section that has been exposed in this way there is a black stratum 10 inches below the level of the ground: this seems to have been a hard beaten floor of small stones and sand. I found no relics.

No. 112.—This group of five huts, round and oval, stands on a small piece of higher ground that rises out of the moss that lies to the west of the Larachmor burn in the stretch above spot-level 531. They are about 200 yards north-west of spot-level 545, and the rising ground is easy to identify.

No. 118.—These huts lie on both banks of an unmarked right tributary of the Larachmor burn that joins it at point 554. They are eleven in number, large on the whole, mostly oval in shape, and possessing the usual features. One or two are very much faded, while others are in unusually good preservation, which fact probably points to a long occupation of the site. The doorways point in any direction between south-east and south-west, and one hut has two doorways opposite to one another. In one of the better-preserved ones the method of construction can be seen clearly: stone slabs have been set up on end in an irregular double row, and the space between them filled in with turf and smaller stones. One, an oblong house, 12 feet long, on the left bank of the main burn, has been half washed away. As the burn now runs in a channel 2 feet 3 inches deep, the edge of which is from 5 feet to 8 feet distant from the mark of the washing-away, it is possible that this house may be of considerable age. (There are no signs of recent spates having taken this course.)

No. 119.—A single oblong house (12 feet by 5 feet) stands on the left bank of the Larachmor burn at a point about 280 yards above spot-level 554, where another unmarked tributary joins it on the right bank.

No. 105.—A few yards from the road, in the angle between it and the turf dyke that forms the north boundary of Coille Rudha Dhuibh, there are two round huts associated with a platform. There is also a semicircular enclosure of turf built against the dyke that runs beside the road.

No. 109.—A large round hut a few yards east of the road at B.M. 1188.

No. 101.—This is a group of eight huts, which lie under a low cliff a short distance from the right bank of Allt a Bhuic, just opposite spot-level 346. The walls of all except one contain a large proportion

of stone. The exception, which contains very little stone, is the largest of the group, and measures 17 feet by 12 feet as far as can be made out in spite of its dilapidated state. Three of these huts are built as "lean-to's" against the cliff.

No. 100.—This group lies on both banks of Allt a Bhuic, 170 yards above the one last described. It consists of three huts at least, while there are faint traces of a number more on the knoll close by. They are single huts of medium size, with a good deal of stone in the walls.

No. 102.—This is a round hut, principally of stone, 50 yards from the left bank of Allt Cruach Chaoruinn at a point about 230 yards above its junction with Allt a Bhuic.

No. 111.—This group contains two small round huts, which show as mounds about 2 feet high. Their position is hard to define, as there are few conspicuous features on the ground and none are marked on the map. They stand on a bluff about 150 yards north-east of point 490; a guide to them is to be found in a peat-road which leads up from the moss at the head of Allt Domhain and swings over this bluff within a few yards of them.

No. 108.—At a point 230 yards north-west of the group described last the peat-road can be picked up again as it rises over a brow towards the top of a small unmarked tributary of Allt a Bhuic, which it crosses some 100 yards farther on. From this point may be found:—(a) the remains of a hut measuring 8 feet by 5 feet, with traces of other buildings round about it (55 yards to the north-east); and (b) an oval mound, 10 feet by 14 feet over all, which is evidently the remains of another (58 yards to the NNW.).

No. 117.—Two round huts, 4 feet and 6 feet in diameter respectively, stand on a brow that rises from the west side of the hollow at the head of Allt Domhain, and near its lower end. This point is close to the point at which the source of the burn is shown on the map.

No. 115.—Close to the left bank of the Oragaig burn, 115 yards below point 486, there is a rectangular mound measuring 16 feet by 7 feet over all, which is suggestive of a double hut, though it may be natural.

No. 120.—On the left bank of the Oragaig burn, just below its junction with its main (unnamed) tributary, there is a semicircular enclosure built against the steep cliff that forms the side of the glen, and faint traces of a large round hut. The stone and turf walls that intersect on this small strath point to the past existence of some human settlement.

No. 122.—This hut is on the east face of Cnoc Dubh nan Coileach, about 100 yards east of the "h" of "Dubh," and 30 yards below a con-

spicuous rock face on the crest of the hill. It is round (diameter 8 feet), and is much faded.

*Conclusion.*

Having set forth the available facts, it is now necessary to see whether anything can be deduced from them. (Reference will have to be made occasionally to facts that will be found below under "Miscellaneous.")

i. Considerations that would lead us to ascribe an early date to some, at least, of the huts are as follows:—

(a) Small size and primitive appearance, which are self-evident.

(b) The gulf that is fixed, technologically speaking, between the huts and the older stone houses of the district. The smallest stone house that I have measured is 20 feet by 12 feet internally; and large ones, increasing in length rather than in breadth, run up to 75 feet by 14 feet 8 inches and 89 feet by 20 feet.

On the other hand, a hut measuring 18 feet 6 inches by 6 feet 6 inches is very large: diameters of 5 feet to 6 feet are the average for round huts, and breadths of not more than 7 feet are the rule for rectangular ones. This difference is probably due to the wall of turf, or turf mixed with stone, being unable to support such a broad and heavy roof as the bonded masonry wall of a dry-stone house—though whether this difference in material was a matter of choice, or depended on a difference in technical skill, of course remains doubtful. A good example of the two types in contrast is provided by No. 27.

(c) The faded condition of many of the huts.

(d) The fact that some huts in groups 45 and 46 (*q.v.*) have been undermined by burns, and one in No. 60 has been cut through by an old peat-road.

(e) The association of a cup-marked stone with group No. 43—though this may be evidence of the stone being late as much as of the huts being early. (*V. supra* under No. 43.)

ii. Considerations that suggest a late date are as follows:—

(a) The fact that none of the huts is found anywhere near a prehistoric burying-place.

(b) The local tradition (which is for once clear and unhesitating), that the huts were used within the last hundred years as shielings. This tradition is supported by the position of many of the groups, at a certain height up the hills and near the summer pasture-grounds.

(c) Association with "platforms" (*q.r.* under "Miscellaneous"), which, as will be shown below, are to be connected with the iron-working industries of the middle eighteenth century.

(d) Association with what are presumed to be the remains of whisky-stills—the illicit distilling industry having flourished during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

(e) The apparent advance in style from the use of turf alone to that of turf mixed with a large proportion of stone, in spite of the gulf that still remains between the types of hut and drystone house. (But it may be said that this is an argument for the early date of the primitive types as much as for the late date of the better-built specimens.)

iii. Finally, the association of certain of the huts with bloomeries and other traces of iron-smelting should throw light on their history in proportion to our knowledge of that industry in early times, though personally I am unable to make the interpretation. Instances of such association are—

(a) Deposit of slag in excavated hut in group No. 59 (*q.r.*). I found a deposit of iron-slag similar to this at Dùn a Choin Dhuibh on West Loch Tarbert, inside a circle of stonework 5 feet in diameter that lies just inside the wall of the lowest enclosure. (I excavated this circle believing it to be the foundation of a hut, but the masses of slag showed that it must have been a furnace.)

(b) Casual finds of slag in another part of group 59, near No. 38, and at No. 91.

(c) Occurrence of huts at bloomeries Nos. 110 and 116.

If it is held that the slag at Dùn a Choin Dhuibh is contemporary with the fort itself, and if the general view is that bloomeries too are early, the facts might be taken to support an early date for the huts in addition to those given under i. (above).

The effect of this jumble of contradictions on my own mind is a belief that some of the huts may be early, even prehistoric, though many of them are probably the remains of shielings belonging to the last two or three hundred years. As, however, it must be supposed that the builders of any late huts must have been familiar with dry-stone masonry, their adherence to a primitive type may have been due to the continued occupation of an ancient site, or even to the actual use of ancient buildings; for these might have retained something of their original shape after the original fabric had entirely disappeared in repeated patchings and rebuildings. (Cf. *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, vol. xxxviii. pp. 173–180.)

(D) BURIAL PLACES.

No. 75.—This is a mound containing cist-graves (fig. 5): it lies on the north-east side of the road between Bruiland and Glenrisdell, and is marked on the Ordnance map as “Stone circle, remains of.” The mound is built of large stones and earth, and is approximately circular, being 53 feet long and 50 feet broad. On the north and east sides it hardly rises

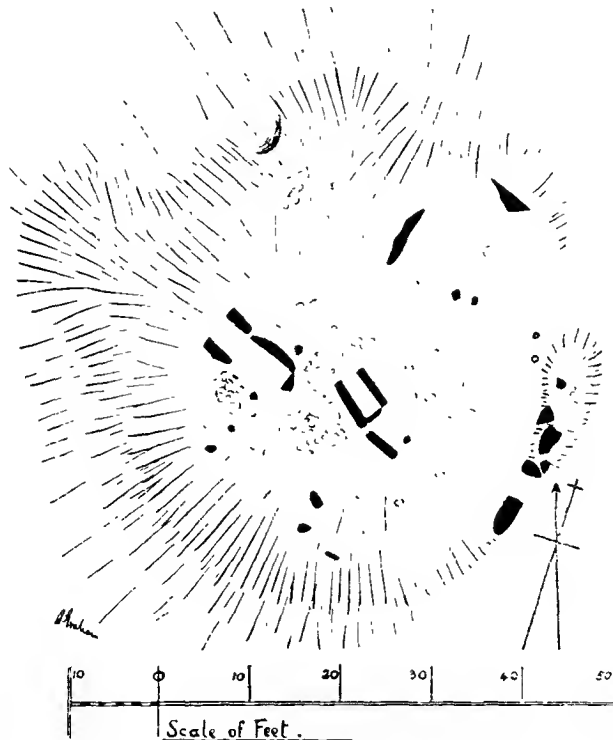


Fig. 5. Burial Mound, Glenrisdell. (No. 75.)

above the ground level, but on the south and west, in which directions the hillside drops away, it has sloping sides rising to a general level at a height of 3 feet or 4 feet. It may have been enclosed originally by a ring of large stones, as an upright block stands at the edge on the north side, and a line of smaller blocks piled together stretches for 23 feet along the east side. There are also odd blocks at other points round the edge. The remains of two cist-graves appear on the surface. One (A) is in the north part of the south-west quarter of the mound; it is 8 feet long and 2 feet 8 inches broad, and is formed by two slabs on each side and one at the



end. But the inner slab on the south side has apparently fallen outwards and been overgrown with turf. The slabs are of various heights up to 3 feet. This grave lies approximately east and west, with the open end towards the west. The other grave (B) lies just south of the centre of the mound, with its open end about 5 feet from the end-slab of (A), and pointing approximately north-west. This grave is 4 feet 6 inches long and 1 foot 10 inches wide; as it was full of rubbish, the depth could not be measured. It is formed by one slab on each side and a cross-slab at the end. The top of another slab shows above the turf abutting on the outer side of this cross-slab in such a way as to suggest that it formed the side of a second cist of the same grave. But the earth was at a higher level here, and there was no more of it to be seen. The axis of this slab is inclined at a considerable angle to that of the existing cist. There is also a large slab standing on its longer edge in the north-west quarter of the mound; it is like the largest side-slab of (A), and is probably the last remaining piece of the structure of a third grave.

(*N.B.*—The compass-bearings given above are only approximately correct.)

No. 90.—This is a group of two, or perhaps three, graves lying 30 yards south-east of the unnamed burn that runs past the east end of Claonaig Inn, at a point about 50 yards above the turf dyke that is marked on the map as crossing the valley exactly at the burn's source. (In reality the burn rises much higher up the hill.) The first grave is a low circular mound of large stones and turf, 20 feet in diameter, with a large cavity in the middle made by grave-robbers. The cist has been destroyed, but a large slab of stone is lying in the cavity and another on the ground outside, which probably formed the sides of it. The stones that form the cairn are large angular blocks, and one can see in the exposed interior that they have been built together with care, and not simply piled up. The second grave is a few yards to the north-east of the first. It is also a low mound of large stones and turf, measuring 14 feet in diameter and standing 3 feet high in the middle. Except for a few stones that have fallen or been thrown off the mound, there are no signs of its having been tampered with. There is a third mound between the second and the burn which may be no more than a turf-covered rock, though such stone as shows itself looks very much like building of the same kind as in the other two cases. (*Note.*—Excavations made while going through the press prove these "graves" to be disturbed huts.)

No. 74.—This is a cairn of stones 350 yards south of the summit of Cnoc an tSuidhe, near spot-level 513. It is 15 feet long and 11 feet broad at the broadest part, this being 5 feet from the east end. In this broadest part a hole, about 2 feet 6 inches wide, has been picked at some time or

other, and partly filled up again with stones thrown in haphazard. But the original building was quite different from this filling, as it has been done carefully with larger stones below and smaller stones and pebbles above, all well compacted together. Two stones in the sides of the hole lean inwards, as if they had once been upright and had formed the sides of a cist: and if this were the case, the existence of the hole would be explained by the rifling of the grave. The height of the original work is 3 feet, measured on the lower side of the cairn.

Local tradition accounts for this cairn by three irreconcilable stories, which are all belied by its prehistoric appearance. These stories say:— (1) This was the place where St Columba preached to the people of Skipness. This is supported by the name of the hill (*Cnoc an tSuidhe*), which would be a very natural name for a place where people sat to listen to preaching. (2) The cairn was put up by the last of the Macdonalds when they were driven out by the Campbells, on the last point on the road from which Skipness was visible. The cairn certainly does stand by the side of the old road from Skipness to Clachan, and this is exactly the last point from which the chapel—not the castle or the village—can be seen. This fact was probably enough to suggest the story. (3) It was put up to mark the place where a postwoman was once lost in the snow. But the dimensions and general appearance of the cairn make it difficult to believe that it had such a recent origin as this.

No. 76.—This is a mound containing a rifled cist: it lies about 300 yards south of No. 74, and about 80 yards east of the Glenbuie march fence. The mound is roughly 30 feet long by 25 feet 6 inches broad over all; it stands 3 feet high, but was probably higher before the middle was taken out to expose the cist. As far as can be seen from the exposed part of the interior, the mound is built of large blocks and slabs of stone, and the outside is covered with turf. The cist is just north of the centre: it is 3 feet long and 2 feet broad at the east end, but towards the west end the side-slabs converge to within a few inches of each other. (But this is probably due to their partial collapse rather than to any design.) The cist is formed of four slabs, and there is a fifth fixed flat against the outside of the eastern end-slab. The bottom of the cist is of earth with some thin pieces of split stone mixed in it, and it is at about the general level of the ground.

No. 71.—At a point 120 yards ENE. of the "n" of "Crow Glen" (on sheet No. CCXIII. NW.) there are the remains of a ruined cist-grave. Fifteen years ago it consisted of two side-slabs and an end-slab; but now there is only one side-slab left, and some smaller packing stones. The cist is built into the face of a slope, but not very deeply; and it must have been covered with a mound or cairn of stones. There are two large



blocks of stone close by which may have formed part of the structure. The remaining slab is 2 feet 6 inches high and 5 feet long.

No. 83.—A tumulus (An Dùnan) is marked on the map in the bottom of the wood at the west end of Skipness village. This mound has been excavated, and has been found to be nothing more than a natural bluff. The stratification of the clays and gravel continues undisturbed to the top.

No. 95.—A Christian burial-ground is marked on the Ordnance map 400 yards north-west of Creggan farm. There are no gravestones to be seen on the surface, nor any signs of burials. It is said that there was another small cemetery somewhere on the shore below Oragaig.

#### *General Note on the Cist-Graves.*

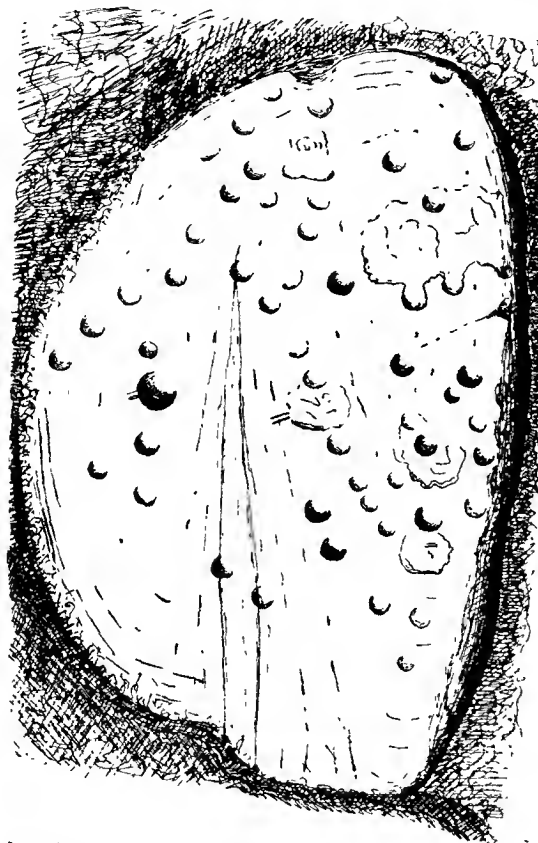
I propose to make another small digression in order to point out that all the prehistoric burying-places lie close to the old road—now a hill-track—that led from Skipness to Clachan, and so to the outer world. First there is (No. 71) a cist, not far from the village; then near the top of the first pass there are (Nos. 74 and 76) a cist in a tumulus and an apparently rifled cairn. Farther on, where the track reaches the valley, there is (No. 75) a mound containing at least two and perhaps more cists. So far we have four burials of apparently Bronze Age date in three miles; and a little farther on, in the field near the ford, the 6-inch map marks "Stone javelin found here." Beyond this point, I do not know of any more traces for a few miles, but in the Ballnakill valley, by which the road came down to Clachan, there are again tumuli marked on the 6-inch map.

(For references to suggestions on this point, cf. Déchelette, *Manuel d'Archéologie Préhistorique*, pt. i. p. 131.)

#### (E) STONES.

No. 54.—This is a cup-marked boulder (fig. 6), lying apparently in its natural position with the surface and one side exposed. It is to the south-east of the junction of the burns at Gleuskibble, being 180 yards from point 402 and 200 yards from point 469: but it is most easily located on the ground from two parallel turf dykes that run up from the glen for a short distance past this point. It is 30 yards to the south of these, 80 yards below their end. The cups are fifty-six in number, if all the faintest traces are reckoned in; at least forty-one are still perfectly clear, though those on the part of the rock that has been exposed to the air are weathering away. The greatest length of the decorated area is 5 feet 9 inches and the greatest breadth 3 feet 7 inches; the cups are

arranged on no particular plan (see sketch), but some are in groups of three and some seem to run in lines, though they are not very straight ones. The largest cup (diameter  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches) is a single one, and has a channel 1 inch long leading into its side; there is also a very small deep



Scale of  
Feet &  
Inches

Fig. 6. Cup-marked Stone in Glenskibbble. (No. 54.)

cup close beside it. Two other cups seem to have been joined by a channel, but the weathering has gone too far for it to be made out with certainty: there is also a short groove in one place that is not connected with any cups. Where the weathering is worst a piece of the surface seems to have split off, which may have spoilt some cups; in two other places splitting seems to have taken place between the units of groups of three. The cups vary in size, the diameters of most of them being from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

No. 66.—This is a large flat slab of rock marked with circular cups (fig. 7). It lies 60 yards north-east of Eas Faolain, at a point 320 yards above the bridge of the pier road. The slab is prone, and there are no signs of its having ever stood upright or formed part of a dolmen. The disposition of the cups can be seen from the sketch; the group of



Fig. 7. Cup-marked Rock, NE. of Eas Faolain. (No. 66.)

three cups arranged as a trefoil is worth notice, as the centre of the trefoil also carries a small cup. The diameters of the cups are from  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

No. 44.—This stone is in the middle of the colony of huts described under No. 43 (*q.v.*). It is a flattish boulder fixed in the east side of the hillock on which the huts stand, conforming to the slope. The surface measures 3 feet in length (on a line drawn through the cups) and 2 feet 8 inches in breadth. The cups are nine in number, and are close together on the highest part of the stone; their position suggesting that it was in its present position when they were put on. They are very shallow

and faint, and have evidently been exposed to the weather for a long time, as the surface of the stone inside them is as rough as that of the unworked parts. Their average diameter is about 2 inches, though one is larger. The significance of the association of this stone with the huts is discussed under No. 43.

No. 106.—This is a flattish boulder of irregular shape (the surface measuring 7 feet each way), which bears most singular markings. It lies 150 yards SSW. of the point where the fence and turf dyke that form the north boundary of Coille Rudha Dhuibh meet the road (mid-way between points 161 and 140). The markings consist of:—

(a) Grooves of more or less semicircular section, the dispositions and design of which are very difficult to describe in words. The broadest of these, which is very sharp and clean, is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches broad and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep, and an intricate one in the lower right-hand corner as you face the stone is 2 inches broad at its broadest point and  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

(b) Small pits. Among the grooves in the lower right-hand corner there is a small round pit 1 inch across and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep; I think that it has been deeper and broader, but that a part of its side has split away. Another pit, of trefoil outline and with very sharp edges, is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch across and 1 inch deep.

(c) Shallower channels and scrapings.

(d) Scratches, up to  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch in breadth, which run in all directions, are of various lengths, and are sometimes straight and sometimes twisted.

The stone when found was half covered with turf, and the markings that had been covered were much sharper than the others.

These markings are very puzzling. The smaller scrapings and channels classed under (c) and (d) above cannot conceivably be caused by ice, in view of their lack of parallelism, the twistings of some of them, and the way in which some of the straight ones appear to meet one another as if to form crosses or angles. And I know of no natural agency—whether ice, water, or chemical action—that could have produced such grooves as those placed under (a), while the two small pits are obviously the work of man. The only thing which the broader grooves resemble at all are the marks made by the polishing of stone implements, that are found on hard rocks in some places. This suggestion, however, does not provide any probable explanation for the smaller grooves and scratches: and the trefoil-shaped pit looks as if it had been made by some small instrument like a chisel, and finished with a wooden drill.

*Note.*—This locality happens to be one that was held to be much

haunted by fairies, though nothing is said about any such stone as this being used for any magical purpose.

No. 84.—About 50 yards east of the lower corner of the Chapel Wood, and near the edge of the cliffs, there is a slab of stone standing on its side. It is slightly inclined from the vertical. The height is 3 feet, the breadth at the base 5 feet 9 inches, and the thickness at the base 1 foot 9 inches. There are several large stones lying within a few yards of this slab: one of them, at the least, was probably erect at one time, as there seem to be packing stones underneath it. There are also obscure traces of turf walling round about. A small thumb-scraper of brown flint was found near this place.

No. 65.—This is a standing-stone 32 yards NNE. of No. 66; height 2 feet 11 inches, breadth 3 feet 6 inches, thickness 1 foot 5 inches. It is roughly conical, with one flat side.

No. 64.—This is a standing-stone 150 yards north-west of No. 66; height 2 feet 8 inches, breadth 3 feet, thickness 3 feet 4 inches. This stone is flat on the south-west side and has a rounded top: it has fallen over considerably from the vertical position. There are two smaller stones, lying in the ground, 11 feet 6 inches and 23 feet respectively from it, and so placed that the three are as nearly as possible in a straight line.

No. 70.—This stone is on the lower slopes of Cnoc Moine Raibeirt, 20 yards above the angle of the turf dyke which will be found on the map 120 yards north-west of the "M" in "Monybachach Wood." Height 2 feet 7 inches, breadth 4 feet 6 inches, thickness 2 feet 5 inches; but the stone is so irregularly shaped and stands on so steep a slope that these measurements do not convey much information. It is clearly one of the ice-borne boulders which are common on these hills, which has been levered up into a vertical position on its downhill end.

No. 72.—This stone is 130 yards from the last (No. 70), on a true bearing of 215°. It is a slab on end, leaning over at an angle of 45°; height (if upright) 3 feet 4 inches, breadth 3 feet 6 inches, thickness 1 foot 1 inch. The upper end has been rounded, either by nature or art.

No. 52.—This is a boulder standing on end, the top is naturally pointed and one face flat and of triangular shape. Height 3 feet 9 inches, breadth at base 3 feet 8 inches, thickness at base 2 feet 3 inches. It stands in a small rushy hollow on Cnoc na Sgratha, within 100 yards of point 237, and towards the north.

No. 30.—This stone (fig. 8) stands on the north side of the north (unnamed) branch of Allt Gamhna, 250 yards above the junction. It stands on a very steep slope, so that the height is considerably less on the upper side than on the lower. The height is 8 feet on the upper and 13 feet on the lower face, to the highest point; this highest point is not in the

middle, and the top falls from it to a shoulder about 3 feet lower towards the north end. The breadth is 14 feet, and the thickness 9 feet at the height of the ground on the upper side. The stone is founded, on the downhill side, on a large boulder that has apparently been placed there for the purpose, and the base is well packed round about with blocks of various sizes. There are also a number of large blocks lying near by.



Fig. 8. Standing Stone. Allt Gamhna. (No. 30.)

(The burn beside which this stone stands is the march between Skipness and Stonefield estates.)

No. 98.—This stone is an upright slab, 4 feet 2 inches high, 5 feet 9 inches long, and 3 feet thick. It stands in the valley that stretches down the side of Cruach nam Fiadh to the Larachmor burn, and is about 330 yards north-west of spot-level 455 (on the burn).

No. 113.—The position of this stone is difficult to give accurately because of the lack of prominent features either on the map or on the ground. It stands on the west side of the upper part of the moss at the head of the Oragaig burn, roughly speaking 150 yards south of point 609.



It is easy to find, however, as it is a conspicuous object to anyone in the moss or on the hill-tops round about. The stone is part of a short ridge of rock that crops out of the ground at this point; faults having divided the ridge into three parts—the cracks being at right angles to the longer axis—this block, the central portion, has been tipped forward through an angle of  $90^\circ$ , so that its original upper surface now forms its eastern face. That this is what has happened is made clear by comparing the planes of the quartz strata in the standing block with those in the remainder of the ridge, as those in the former are vertical and those in the latter horizontal. The contour of the eastern face of the upright portion, also, corresponds with that of the top of the ridge. The height at the highest point (close to the north end) is 5 feet; height at south end 3 feet 4 inches; length along ground 8 feet 10 inches; greatest length 9 feet 6 inches; thickness 3 feet 9 inches. (These measurements refer to the west face.)

No. 121.—These stones are on a knoll on the east face of Cnoc Dubh nan Coileach, about 200 yards east of the "h" of "Dubh." They seem undoubtedly to have been placed there artificially, as the top of a small knoll is not a likely place for ice-borne boulders to settle down of their own accord, and one of them at least is not bedded into the soil but lies on the rock of the knoll, which is here exposed. They are shapeless angular lumps; the largest, which is roughly of triangular section, measures 3 feet 4 inches in height, 3 feet 10 inches along the longest side, and 3 feet 8 inches through. There are no signs of any other stones having completed a circle, for which there would scarcely be room on the knoll.

No. 21.—This slab of stone stands on a rocky knoll about 50 feet above the sea level at a point north-west of Rudha nan Caorach and near the "s" of "Tides." (It can be seen easily from the path above.) Its height is 4 feet, breadth at ground level 4 feet, thickness 10 inches. The original thickness was 16 inches, but a slice 6 inches thick has split off the south-east face, and still lies as it fell. This slab is not beside any path, but it may have been intended to mark a gully that runs up past the knoll at an easier gradient than that of the hillside in general.

No. 23.—This is a large, shapeless fragment of rock, 6 feet 6 inches high, 8 feet long, and 5 feet thick. It stands on a saddle which, with the craggy hill-top to which it is joined, separates the Seanlaggan valley from the trough of Eas Mor. (The height above sea-level is about 590 feet.) A flat surface of rock shows through the grass on the top of this saddle, and the stone rests on this surface with an unnatural nicety that suggests the work of man. Moreover, there is no crag or cliff near by from which it could have rolled into its position. (There

is another large boulder about 40 yards to the west, but its foundations are covered by the turf, and no suggestions as to its origin can be made.) An old track rises from Seanlaggan to this saddle, and must have passed close to these stones; but its actual course at the place is hidden by the turf, which has not been able to accumulate to the same extent on the steep slope below.

No. 2.—This large upright slab of stone is certainly intended to mark the line of the track beside which it stands. It therefore interprets other upright slabs which are found here and there, and which need only be kept in mind for cautionary purposes. There is another large stone, a shapeless block, some 200 yards to the east along this track, which is clearly of the same character: by its position—it lies on a flat rock—it recalls No. 23, and provides the explanation that was required for it.

No. 4.—About 130 yards south of Mealldarroch ruined houses there are three stones standing in a straight line, that lies approximately east and west. Their flat faces are at right angles to this line, and in that they differ from the slabs that stand beside hill-tracks. Moreover, there are no traces of any road near them. They are of the same size and appearance as No. 64; the centre stone is 15 yards from the western and the eastern one 12 yards from the centre. The eastern stone leans backwards (uphill) against two large boulders.

#### (F) MISCELLANEOUS.

Under this heading I propose to describe a certain number of things some of which are primitive rather than ancient, and others of which are not monuments at all. My excuse for so doing is that they are interesting in themselves, and that the company in which they appear is already very mixed.

##### *Platforms.*

There are first of all a number of structures which I have called "platforms." These platforms are small levelled areas built on the slopes of hills, in the same way as teeing greens are sometimes built on a hilly golf-course, the earth being dug away on the upper side and made into an artificial bank on the lower. They are generally oval, and about 20 feet in length. Details of their positions, dimensions, etc., are given in the notes which follow: as a summary it may be said that they occur in groups (often associated with huts) on steep slopes overlooking the sea, and at heights of less than 250 feet; that charred wood is generally to be found under the turf that covers them, while there is little iron-slag, if any; and that they have been built up to a level on purpose and do not result from the accumulation of any soil or waste

products. One may therefore surmise that they were hearths used by charcoal-burners, who cut the scrub-woods that grow on these slopes, made the charcoal on the spot, and sent it away by sea to foundries or the outer world in general. This theory is supported by the fact that iron was smelted to a large extent in Argyll and other parts of the west coast during the second half of the eighteenth century; the *Statistical Account* (vol. v. p. 298, footnote; Inveraray) says that the Duke of Argyll gave to the Argyll Furnace Company rights over the woods on his lands in several parishes, and mentions among the necessary processes, "cutting, peeling, and making charcoal." (Other references to this industry in the *Statistical Account* are vol. vi. p. 176, and vol. x. p. 268.) The present state of the woods also agrees with this conjecture; for though the general stock of trees has not altogether recovered itself in the neighbourhood of these platforms, yet the individual trees are of full age, and some large birch and hazel trees are growing actually out of certain of them, so that it seems probable that they have not been used for a hundred years or thereabouts. The distinction between platforms and bloomeries will be discussed in the treatment of the latter.

No. 50.—This platform is 21 feet long and 18 feet broad in the middle. It lies 50 yards south-west of the "T" of "Tobair a Ghail." There is charred wood mixed with the soil on it, but apparently no iron, although a bloomery is reported to have been seen here some years ago.

No. 49.—This one is like the last, but in better preservation. It lies below it at a height of 180 feet, on the left side of the same burn.

No. 38A.—This group of three platforms lies between B burn and C burn (see under Huts, Nos. 32 to 39), at a height of about 110 feet. They are of the usual type. A bloomery exists somewhere in this neighbourhood, but investigation with a trowel in the platforms only produced charcoal. Another platform that belongs to this group lies on the left bank of C burn.

Other platforms can be found in this bay as follows:—(i.) 200 yards north of the last, height 160 feet (No. 37); (ii.) below (i.), height 90 feet (No. 36); (iii.) on the left bank of D burn, just above the path, height 170 feet (No. 34). *N.B.*—The name of this bay, "Camas na Ceardaich," is no doubt connected with the industry of the platforms; though I do not know whether the word can apply to charcoal-burning, or whether it implies the existence of a forge or smithy of some kind, with which the bloomery would agree better.

No. 24A.—This is less a group of platforms than a piece of ground on which several have been found and a number of others probably still remain to be found. The following are known, scattered about the valley above Fionn Port, on the right side of the burn:—(i.) About the "4" of

spot-level 174; (ii.) 50 yards uphill from (i.), and nearer the ravine; (iii.) 100 yards uphill from the last (ii.); (iv.) a very large one, 8 yards by 7 yards: associated with it is Hut No. 24 (*q.v.* for position).

Charred wood again appeared on these platforms, but no slag.

The remainder of this coast, between Fionn Port and Tarbert, is so thickly covered with platforms that it is not worth while to give separate accounts of the various groups. The positions of some are given under the descriptions of the huts which are associated with them (Nos. 11, 14, 16, 19). The last examples towards the north are No. 9, a group of four lying immediately to the north of the Allt Beithe burn, between the 200-foot and 150-foot contours, and No. 10, a group of three in the gully immediately south-east of this burn, at a height of about 200 feet. From the point mentioned under No. 11 (Creag na Cairte) it was possible to make out the traces of a great number on the hillside below, but the slope was so steep that it did not appear worth while to carry out an exhaustive search in view of the fact that these platforms only vary in size and not in type. I have accordingly neglected the ground between Creag na Cairte and Camas na Ban-Tighearna. But it may be taken for granted that all these slopes are covered fairly thickly with platforms: and it is noticeable that they occur quite commonly where the slopes are particularly steep.

*N.B.*—The platforms and huts associated with them all occur at or below the 250-foot contour, and appear to have depended on the sea rather than on the land: whereas the other huts on this sea face are found near the courses of paths and passes that are the natural lines for traffic and communication by land.

No. 51.—Under this number is placed an area of ground containing a large number of platforms. The area is bounded on the north by the burn of Tobair a Ghaill, on the west by the 300-foot contour (approximately), on the south by a turf dyke that runs down to the sea at a point 250 yards north of Skipness pier, and on the east by the cliffs. The platforms are scattered here and there within these boundaries: and as they are similar to those already described, there is nothing to be gained by discussing them in detail. There are also traces of drainage works in the area, *i.e.* ditches and pools filled up with grass and moss, which seem to have had some connection with the work that went on here. (There are traces of similar ditches or water-courses at No. 114.) This area is known to have been under scrub-wood until about 1850, but nothing is said about any charcoal-burning having taken place when it was cleared. It is therefore probable that these platforms date back to a time when a previous crop of trees was cut from the same ground: especially as the charcoal industry was in full swing a hundred years earlier.

No. 114.—Another area in which there are several platforms may be described as lying on both banks of Allt a Bhuic, between the road and the top of the cliffs, and extending as far south as the “e” of “Coille.” They are most numerous in the angle between the ravine and the cliffs. There is also one outside the south-west corner of the small field that is enclosed by the woods at this point, and another just west of the road-bridge (B.M. 178·8). They are of the same type as those that have been described already, and there are traces of ditches near some of them. A bloomery also comes into this area (*q.v.*, No. 116).

No. 105A.—A single large platform: for position *cf.* No. 105 (Huts).

#### *Bloomeries.*

Another class of monument of which several examples exist is that of the bloomeries. I know of seven examples in the area, and believe that at least three, and probably many more, exist which have not been found. The known examples are in various states of preservation, the best one consisting of a mound of slag associated with the remains of a hut and a platform, and the worst being merely a stratum of slag under the turf. They are located as follows:—

No. 77.—On the lip of the ravine that forms the left bank of Allt a Chreamha, at a point just east of the “t” of “Allt” (as written on sheet No. CCXIII. SW.). This is nothing more than a bed of slag which crops out where the soil has been disturbed by the traffic on a path.

No. 86.—This is a mound of slag measuring some 10 feet across, standing on the hillside 80 yards above the ruins of a house that is marked on the map, but is not named, its position being 470 yards nearly due north of Gortaneorn. There is much loose slag lying round about the mound.

No. 94.—On the right bank of Allt Criche, 50 yards below the point where it leaves the enclosure that is marked as a coniferous wood. In this case the mound is so low that it is barely noticeable on the surface; the slag, however, appears as a stratum under the soil in the sides of a large rut, made by the dragging of fallen timber. The length of the patch that appears in this way is 15 feet: the breadth could not be made out.

No. 56.—This is a large mound of slag 3 feet high and 15 feet broad over all, with some charcoal appearing in its composition. Beside it are a lower mound (turfed over, but probably also consisting of slag), and a circle of stones set in the earth, measuring 2 feet 6 inches in diameter, and having gaps towards the SSW. and SSE. It lies on the right bank of a small trickle of water not shown on the map, at a point about 300 yards west of the top of Hill 609.

No. 67.—This is a mound of slag similar to No. 86, standing about 100 yards north-west of point 311.

No. 110.—This site is on the left bank of a small burn (not marked) which runs straight down to the sea from B.M. 1188, at a point a short distance above the cliffs. The remains consist of a mound of slag, and an oval of stonework that might mark the foundations of a hut.

No. 116.—This is the most interesting bloomery in the area, as the remains include a platform and a hut, as well as the mound of slag. They stand about 80 yards north-east of the “e” of “Coille Rudha Dhuibh” (as marked on sheet No. CCXXV. NW.), on the left bank of a small unmarked burn. The place can be found easily, as it is in the middle of an open ride that runs straight through the woods a short distance above the cliffs.

In addition to the above examples a reliable observer reports that he has seen mounds in the vicinity of No. 36, where there are a number of huts and platforms, and at the spot where platform No. 50 is marked; but both these seem to have been overgrown of late years. Another site which I have been unable to identify is that reported in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, vol. xxi. (1886-87), p. 96; the wording of the description is vague, and the only site that seems to answer to it at all is that of No. 68 (*q.v.*), on Cnoc Moine Raibeirt. But no slag is to be seen there to-day, nor any mound that is noticeably distinct from the ordinary irregularities of a hill-top.

Casual finds of slag, as distinct from regular bloomeries, have been made in various places, and have been noted in other parts of the paper (*cf.* Nos. 38, 59, and 91). Of these the deposit in the floor of the hut at No. 59 is the most important. The possible site of yet another bloomery or deposit of slag has been noted under No. 88.

The account of these bloomeries will have been sufficient to bring out the distinction between them and the platforms, in spite of the association of the two in Nos. 50 and 116; as in the great majority of cases there is no mound, and charcoal alone appears when the turf is raised. The suggestion already made, that platforms are to be connected primarily with the process of preparing charcoal, may therefore be allowed to stand as a working hypothesis.

As to the date of any of the bloomeries I have found no clue; though the discovery of slag at Dùn a Choin Dhuibh, alluded to above under No. 59, suggests that iron was being worked in this district at an early date. (A small piece of slag was also found in the excavation of No. 73, Dùn Breac, which is presumably of the same age, more or less, as Dùn a Choin Dhuibh.) There seems to be no memory of any iron-working preserved in local tradition.

*Whisky Stills.*

Another industry that has left some tangible traces in the district is that of making whisky. This industry was carried on in an entirely illicit manner, and its votaries enjoyed an enormous prestige. In consequence of this a considerable body of tradition has come down, and it is moreover of such a nature as to make the subject more suitable for treatment by an epic poet than by an archaeologist. In addition to this, the remains of the stills are few and very difficult to find. I therefore do not propose to discuss the whole subject in full, but will simply note the positions of a few sites that are probably the remains of them.

No. 53.—This site is on the left bank of Allt an Unsinn, just below the point where it leaves a large moss—the map indicates that the burn rises

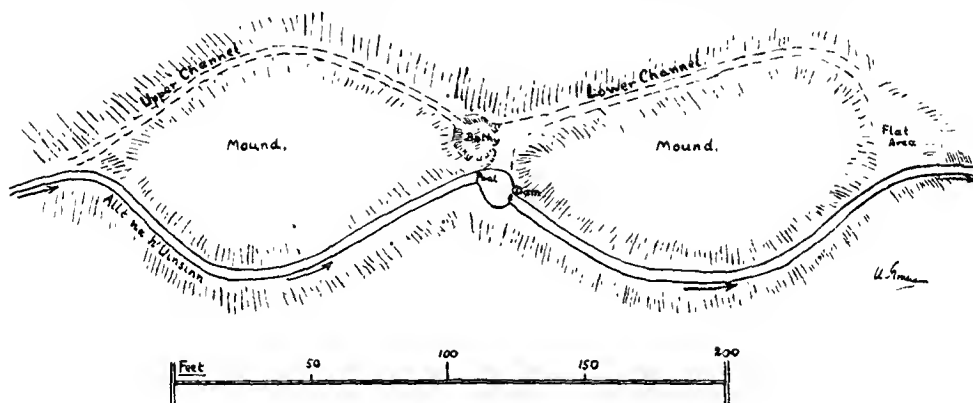


Fig. 9. Whisky Still, Allt an Unsinn. (No. 53.)

here, but this is wrong. The remains (fig. 9) consist of a channel, now dry, leading out of the burn, running round a mass of earth some 25 yards long by 10 yards broad, and into a dug-out chamber that has been hollowed into the lower end of the mass. As the chamber is close to the edge of the burn, the mass of earth round which the channel runs is left as a kind of island. From the chamber another dry channel leads round another larger island, and, after bending sharply towards the burn, gives on to a small level space close to the bank. The whole system is about 100 yards long. (The general outline can be seen by the diagram, fig. 9.) The chamber or bothy is 14 feet long and 12 feet broad, and is 4 feet deep at the upper end; the floor has been raised by earth and some large stones that have fallen in from the sides, and originally, when the floor was flat, this depth must have been greater. There is a doorway at the lower end that is almost on a level with the edge of the burn, and is besides quite close to it, as the bothy is only divided from the burn on its south-west

side by 3 feet of turf. The burn has been dammed so as to form an artificial pool just outside the entrance of the bothy. Without attempting to explain exactly how this place was used, one can suggest that the upper channel was a lade for bringing water in moderate volume or at particular times into the half-underground bothy, in which some process or other was carried on; that a deep bath of water was required for this process, which was supplied by the artificial pool; and that the lower channel was intended to provide a sufficient fall to carry off to a lower level the water brought down by the upper one. Speaking without experience, the hypothesis of a whisky still would appear to fit in with these conditions; as a shelter or hut would be necessary to protect the fire from rain, and for storage, and a deep pool for the worm to be laid in for condensation. (The use of the channels, certainly, is not altogether plain.) A certain number of other instances have been noted of huts built close to burns and associated with ditches or traces of waterworks. (*Cf.* Nos. 13 and 45.)

Other examples exist, but are not of sufficient interest to be allotted numbers. One, similar to No. 53, is to be found in Gleann Airidh Mhicheil, at the second "n" of "Gleann," and is worth comparing with it.

The remains consist of (i.) a square depression hollowed out of the south side of the glen, 6 feet across inside, and lined with stonework. The floor is nearly level with the water in the burn. (ii.) On the edge of the glen, which is here about 15 feet deep, and immediately above the depression, there are faint traces of a small round hut. (iii.) On the north side, a short distance downstream from (i.), there is an artificial ledge built about 6 feet above the water: it is triangular in shape, being 12 feet long and 4 feet broad at the downstream end. It is built up underneath with two or three courses to bring it to a level. Another possible example consists of some drystone walling in the bed of the burn to the north-east of Laggan houses, under the second "6" of B.M. 2676. It runs alongside the burn for a few yards, forming an embankment in the steep side of the ravine, and then turns at right angles, goes down to the edge of the water, and seems to have formed a dam, as there is a little stonework on the opposite bank at this point. (The suggestion that this may have been a still is supported by the fact that the people who used to live in Laggan were famous as distillers of whisky.)

Another site, similar to the last, is in Allt a Chreamha, at about the first "h" of "Chreamha."

#### *Turf Enclosures.*

There are the remains of other rectangular structures of turf, unconnected with the groups of circles, which are much larger than the



rectangular huts and might be compared with the drystone houses; but the comparison is upset by their greater breadth in proportion to their length, which seems to indicate that they were never roofed. One which stands on the right side of Gleann Airidh Mhicheil, by its junction with its tributary, is 24 feet long, 19 feet 6 inches broad at one end and 15 feet 6 inches at the other; another, built against the turf dyke immediately below B.M. 384.2 (Sliabh nan Dearg), is about the same size; and a third, which stands to the east of the right-hand branch of the unnamed burn that runs down to Fionn Port, at about 700 feet above the sea, is 23 feet by 21 feet. This one, again, is just above a turf dyke. The size and position of these structures therefore make it more probable that they were enclosures for cattle than habitations, and they should not be confused with the rectangular huts with which this note is concerned. They also differ from the huts in being isolated buildings, and not members of groups as the others are.

Other examples (circular) of these enclosures can be seen at the following points:—(i.) 150 yards SSW. of Strone, under a knoll; (ii.) on the left bank of the Larachmor burn opposite point 510 (this one is built of large stones, walls 3 feet to 4 feet thick, diameter 22 feet); (iii.) 500 yards north-west of (ii.).

#### *Small Objects.*

As regards casual finds of small objects, the district has so far produced practically nothing, whether of flint, metal, bone, or pottery. (This may, of course, be due in part to lack of systematic searching.) One class of object, however, deserves to be mentioned, as enough examples exist to form some kind of a series, and it is the rough stone mortar. These mortars are often to be found by the doors of old and abandoned cottages, and are therefore probably of no very great antiquity; but they are interesting nevertheless as being a primitive type of instrument continuing in use alongside of rotary querns and water-mills. (The lower portion of a rotary quern has also survived at Skipness Castle.) Without having looked with any particular care for these mortars, I know of at least seven, and others could certainly be found among the ruins of old houses. The rudest of these seven has been made by sinking a hollow in the top of a rock that happened to crop out near the site of a house; another is an undressed block of stone with a hollow sunk in it; and in the remainder the outsides have been dressed with varying degrees of care towards the normal urn-like shape. The hollows in two of the most carefully finished specimens are 9 inches and 8 inches in depth respectively; the first is  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter at the top, and the second, which is not quite circular, measures 10 inches by  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

LIST OF MONUMENTS.

No.	Short description.	No	Short description.	No	Short description
1.	Tarbert Castle.	42.	Hut.	[83.	Natural mound.]
2.	Stone slab.	43.	Huts (group).	84.	Standing-stone.
3.	Huts (group).	44.	Cup-marked stone.	85.	Kilbrannan Chapel.
4.	Stone slabs.	45.	Huts (group).	86.	Bloomery.
5.	Hut.	46.	" "	87.	Huts (group).
6.	"	47.	Hut.	88.	Hut.
7.	"	48.	"	89.	"
8.	Huts (group).	49.	Platform.	90.	Huts (group).
9.	Platforms.	50.	"	91.	" "
10.	"	51.	" (area).	92.	" "
11.	Huts (group).	52.	Standing-stone.	93.	" "
12.	Hut.	53.	Distillery.	94.	Bloomery.
13.	Huts and ? distillery.	54.	Cup-marked stone.	95.	Burial ground.
14.	" (group).	55.	Huts (group).	96.	Hut.
15.	" "	56.	Bloomery.	97.	"
16.	Hut.	57.	Huts (group).	98.	Standing-stone.
17.	Huts.	58.	" "	99.	Huts (group).
18.	" (group).	59.	" "	100.	" "
19.	Hut.	60.	" "	101.	" "
20.	"	61.	Hut.	102.	Hut.
21.	Standing-stone.	62.	Huts (group).	[103.	Cancelled.]
22.	Hut.	63.	Fort.	104.	Huts (group).
23.	Stone block.	64.	Standing-stone.	105.	" "
24.	Hut and platform.	65.	" "	106.	Grooved stone.
25.	Hut.	66.	Cup-marked stone.	107.	Huts (group).
26.	Huts (group).	67.	Bloomery.	108.	" "
27.	" "	68.	Huts. <sup>1</sup>	109.	"
28.	" "	69.	"	110.	Bloomery.
29.	" "	70.	Standing-stone.	111.	Huts (group).
30.	Standing-stone.	71.	Ruined cist-grave.	112.	" "
31.	Hut.	72.	Standing-stone.	113.	Standing-stone.
32.	Huts (group).	73.	Dùn Breac.	114.	Platforms (area).
33.	Hut.	74.	Cairn (grave).	115.	Huts (group).
34.	"	75.	Cist-graves.	116.	Bloomery.
35.	Huts (group).	76.	Cist-grave.	117.	Huts (group).
36.	Platform.	77.	Bloomery.	118.	" "
37.	"	78.	Hut.	119.	" "
38.	Hut.	79.	Huts (group).	120.	" "
39.	"	80.	Hut.	121.	Standing-stones.
40.	Huts (group).	81.	"	122.	Huts (group).
41.	" "	82.	Skipness Castle.		

<sup>1</sup> This number is out of place on the map.

TABLE SHOWING SERIAL NUMBERS OF MONUMENTS BY TYPES.

Heading.	Type.	Serial Numbers.
A . . .	Castles . . . . .	1, 82.
A . . .	Chapel . . . . .	85.
B . . .	Forts . . . . .	63, 73.
C . . .	Huts (groups or single examples).	3, 5 to 8, 11 to 20, 22, 24 to 29, 31 to 35, 38 to 43, 45 to 48, 55, 57 to 62, 68, 69, 78 to 81, 87 to 93, 96, 97, 99 to 102, 104, 105, 107 to 109, 111, 112, 115, 117 to 120, 122.
D . . .	Prehistoric burials . . . . .	71, 74, 75, 76.
D . . .	Christian graveyards . . . . .	85, 95. ? Unknown location on shore below Oragaig.
E . . .	Cup-marked stones . . . . .	44, 54, 66, 106.
E . . .	Standing-stones (slabs or blocks).	2, 4, 21, 23, 30, 52, 64, 65, 70, 72, 84, 98, 113, 121.
F . . .	Platforms . . . . .	9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 19, 24 (A), 34, 36, 37, 38 (A), 49 to 51, 105 (A), 114. <i>N.B.</i> - Some of the above numbers refer to huts also.
F . . .	Bloomeries . . . . .	56, 67, 77, 86, 288, 94, 110, 116. Also three examples not located.
F . . .	Other localities where slag has been found.	59, 73, 91.
F . . .	Whisky stills (presumed).	13, 45, 53. Also three not numbered.

MONDAY, 10th March 1919.

GEORGE MACDONALD, C.B., F.B.A., LL.D., in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following were elected Fellows:—

JOHN HAMILTON BIRRELL, M.A., F.R.S.G.S., c/o Sanderson, 63 Montpelier Park.

HENRY PENFOLD, Front Street, Brampton, Cumberland.

There was exhibited by Mr Robert Kinghorn, Moorpark, Foulden, Berwick-on-Tweed, an Axe of quartz, highly polished,  $8\frac{3}{8}$  inches in length, slightly tapering to the cutting edge  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch in breadth, and more markedly to the butt, which is chisel-shaped, with a breadth of  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch (fig. 1). The greatest breadth is  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch: thickness at the centre,  $1\frac{1}{16}$  inch. It is ground flat along the sides. There is a chip off one side of the cutting edge. Part of the surface still shows a high glaze produced by the polishing, but for the most part this is worn off. The axe was found on the farm of Ladyflat, near Duns, Berwickshire, in 1912.

There was also exhibited by Mr John Smith a considerable collection of relics from the forts of Castlehill, Aitnock, and Coalhill, referred to in the subsequent communication.

The bequests by the late Mrs Rachel Agnes Mackinlay, of The Lee, 18 Colinton Road, of the sum of One hundred pounds to the Society and of the following volumes from the Library of the late Mr James M. Mackinlay, F.S.A.Scot., were intimated:—

*Liber Protocollorum*, M. Cuthberti Simonis Notarii Publici et Scribe Capituli Glasguensis, A.D. 1499–1513, also Rental Book of Diocese of Glasgow, A.D. 1509–1570. Edited by Joseph Bain, F.S.A.Scot., and the Rev. Charles Rogers, LL.D. 2 vols. London, 1875. 8vo.

*Primitive Folk-Moots: or, Open-Air Assemblies in Britain.* By George Laurence Gomme, F.S.A. London, 1880. 8vo.

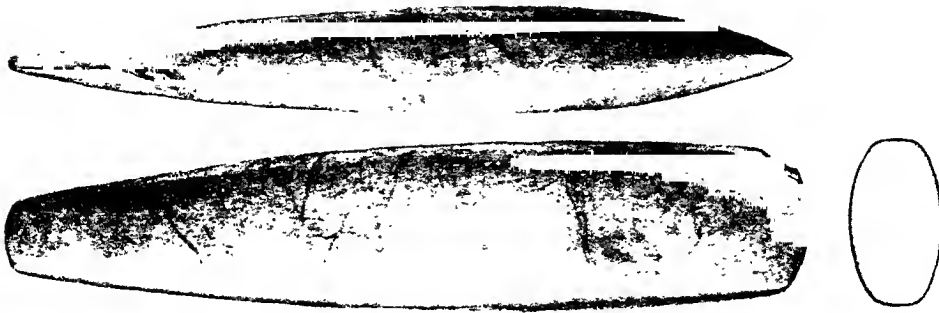


Fig. 1. Axe of Quartz from Ladyflat, near Duns.

*A Dictionary of British Folk-Lore.* Edited by G. Laurence Gomme, F.S.A. Part I. Traditional Games of England, Scotland, and Ireland. Collected and annotated by Alice Bertha Gomme. 2 vols. London, 1894 and 1898. 8vo.

*The Rhynd and Elcho: A Parish History.* By James Ballingal, B.D. Edinburgh, 1905. 8vo.

*A Dictionary of Lowland Scotch, with an Introductory Chapter on the Poetry, Humour, and Literary History of the Scottish Language, and an Appendix of Scottish Proverbs.* By Charles Mackay, LL.D. London, 1888. 8vo.

*Manners, Customs, and Observances: their Origin and Signification.* By Leopold Wagner. London, 1895. 8vo.

*Perth: its Annals and its Archives.* By David Peacock. Perth, 1849. 8vo.

The Traveller's Companion through the City of Edinburgh and Suburbs. Edinburgh, 1794. 4to.

The Place Names of Fife and Kinross. By W. J. N. Liddall, M.A., B.A. Edinburgh, 1896. 8vo.

Culture in Early Scotland. By James Mackinnon, M.A., Ph.D. London, 1892. 8vo.

A Topographical Dictionary of Scotland. By Samuel Lewis. 2 vols. London, 1847. 4to.

Historical Description of the Abbey and Town of Paisley. By Charles Mackie. Glasgow, 1835. 4to.

Fairs, Past and Present: a Chapter in the History of Commerce. By Cornelius Walford, F.I.A., F.S.S. London, 1883. 8vo.

The Moderators of the Church of Scotland from 1690 to 1740. By the Rev. John Warrick, M.A. Edinburgh, 1913. 8vo.

The Golden Bough: a Study in Comparative Religion. By J. G. Frazer, M.A. 2 vols. London, 1890. 8vo.

Linlithgow Palace: its History and Traditions. By the Rev. John Ferguson, D.D., F.S.A.Scot. Edinburgh, 1910. 8vo.

The Parish of Longforgan: a Sketch of the Church and People. By the Rev. Adam Philip, M.A. Edinburgh, 1895. 8vo.

A Dictionary of Place-Names, giving their Derivations. By C. Blackie. London, 1887. 8vo.

Names and their Meaning. By Leopold Wagner. London, 1892. 8vo.

The Monks of the West, from St Benedict to St Bernard. By the Count de Montalembert. 7 vols. Edinburgh, 1861, 1867, 1879. 8vo.

The Coming of the Saints: Imaginations and Studies in Early Church History and Tradition. By John W. Taylor. London, n.d. (First published in 1906.) 8vo.

Church Lore Gleanings. By T. F. Thiselton-Dyer. London, 1891. 8vo.

Old Church Lore. By William Andrews, F.R.H.S. Hull, 1891. 8vo.

Curiosities of the Church: Studies of Curious Customs, Services and Records. By William Andrews, F.R.H.S. London, 1890. 4to.

Old-Time Punishments. By William Andrews, F.R.H.S. Hull, 1890. 8vo.

Curious Church Customs and Cognate Subjects. Edited by William Andrews, F.R.H.S. Hull, 1895. 8vo.

Shrines of British Saints. By J. Charles Wall. London, n.d. (First published in 1905.) 8vo.

Dedications and Patron Saints of English Churches: Ecclesiastical Symbolism, Saints and their Emblems. By Francis Bond, M.A., F.G.S., Hon. A.R.I.B.A. London, 1914. 4to.

Sanctorale Catholicum, or Book of Saints: with Notes, Critical,

Exegetical, and Historical. By the Rev. Robert Owen, B.D. London, n.d. 8vo.

The Mediæval Hospitals of England. By Rotha Mary Clay. London, n.d. (First published in 1909.) 8vo.

Sacred Archæology: a Popular Dictionary of Ecclesiastical Art and Institutions, from Primitive to Modern Times. By Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, B.D., etc. London, 1868. 8vo.

English Church Furniture. By Charles Cox, LL.D., F.S.A., and Alfred Harvey, M.B. London, n.d. (First published in 1907.) 8vo.

English Monastic Life. By Abbot Gasquet, O.S.B., D.D., Ph.D., etc. London, 1904. 8vo.

The Life of St Patrick and his Place in History. By J. B. Bury, M.A., Litt.D., LL.D., etc. London, 1905. 8vo.

Heraldry for Amateurs. By J. J. Milbourne. London, 1909. 8vo.

Arthurian Localities: their Historical Origin, Chief Country, and Fingalian Relations. By John S. Stuart Glennie, M.A. Edinburgh, 1869. 8vo.

Strange Survivals: some Chapters in the History of Man. By S. Baring Gould, M.A. London, 1892. 8vo.

A Concise Etymological Dictionary of the English Language. By the Rev. Walter W. Skeat, Litt.D., LL.D. Oxford, 1887.

A Glossary of North Country Words in use: with their Etymology and Affinity to other Languages; and Occasional Notices of Local Customs and Popular Superstitions. By John Trotter Brockett, F.S.A. Newcastle-on-Tyne, 1829. Sm. 4to.

Sports and Pastimes of Scotland. By Robert Scott Fittis. Paisley, 1891. 8vo.

Ancient Crosses and other Antiquities in the West of Cornwall. Drawn and engraved by J. T. Blight. London, 1856.

The Grotesque in Church Art. By T. Tindall Wildridge. London, 1899. Roy. 8vo.

The Counting-out Rhymes of Children, their Antiquity, Origin, and wide Distribution. By Henry Carrington Bolton. London, 1888. 4to.

The History of St Cuthbert. By the Very Rev. Monsignor C. Eyre. London, 1858. 4to.

The Early Christian Monuments of Scotland. By J. Romilly Allen, F.S.A., F.S.A.Scot., and Joseph Anderson, LL.D. Edinburgh, 1903. 4to.

Plays of our Forefathers, and some of the Traditions upon which the Plays were founded. By Charles Mills Gayley. Litt.D., LL.D. London, 1908. 8vo.

The Legends of SS. Ninian and Machor. Edited, with Introduction, Notes, and Glossary by W. M. Metcalfe, D.D. Paisley, 1904. 8vo.

Glasgow Memorials. By Robert Renwick. Glasgow, 1908. 8vo.

The Tron Kirk of Edinburgh or Christ's Kirk at the Tron: a History. By the Rev. D. Butler, M.A. Edinburgh, 1906. 8vo.

Names and their Histories. By Isaac Taylor, M.A., Litt.D., LL.D., Canon of York. London, 1896. 8vo.

Scotland in Early Christian Times. By Joseph Anderson. 2 vols. Edinburgh, 1881. 8vo.

Scotland in Pagan Times: the Iron Age. By Joseph Anderson, LL.D. Edinburgh, 1883. 8vo.

Scotland in Pagan Times: the Bronze and Stone Ages. By Joseph Anderson, LL.D. Edinburgh, 1886. 8vo.

A Dictionary of the Bible, comprising its Antiquities, Biography, Geography, and Natural History. Edited by William Smith, LL.D. 3 vols. London, 1863. 8vo.

Theatrum Scotiæ, containing the Prospects of their Majesties' Castles and Palaces, etc. By John Slezer. London, 1693. Folio.

The Donation to the Library of the following book was announced, and thanks voted to the Donor:—

By the Rev. W. T. LYON, M.A., F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

The Arms of the Scottish Bishoprics. Selkirk, 1917. 8vo.

It was announced that the following books had been purchased for the Library:—

Die Aeltere Eisenzeit Gotlands. Erstes Heft. Oskar Almgren. Stockholm, 1914. Imp. 4to.

"Kung Björns Hög" och andra fornlämningar vid Haga. Oskar Almgren. Stockholm, 1905. Imp. 4to.

Birka—I. Hjalmar Stolpes Grafundersökningar. Beskrifna af Gustaf Halström. Första Häftet. Stockholm, 1913. Imp. 4to.

Graffältet vid Vendel undersökt af Hjalmar Stolpe. Beskrivet af Hj. Stolpe och T. J. Arne. Stockholm, 1912. Imp. 4to.

Henry Bradshaw Society, vol. lv., 1918. The Calendar of St Willibrord. From MS. Paris. Lat. 10837. A Facsimile, with Transcription, Introduction, and Notes. Edited by H. S. Wilson, M.A. Imp. 4to.

Scottish Text Society. No. 65, 1918. Pieces from the Macculloch and the Gray MSS., together with the Chepman and Myllar Prints. Edited by the late Professor George Stevenson, M.A., B.Litt. Edinburgh, 1918.

The following Communications were read:—

I.

THE RELATION BETWEEN EARLY ANGLO-SAXON AND CELTIC ART,  
AS ILLUSTRATED BY THE HARTLEPOOL GRAVESTONES. BY  
PROFESSOR G. BALDWIN BROWN.

This paper will be found at the end of the volume.

II.

EXCAVATION OF THE FORTS OF CASTLEHILL, AITNOCK, AND  
COALHILL, Ayrshire. BY JOHN SMITH, DYKES, DALRY,  
Ayrshire.

I. CASTLEHILL FORT.

This fort is situated on the summit of an isolated rock on the farm of South Howrat, 600 feet above sea level, in the parish of Dalry in Ayrshire. At the north end the rock, which appears to be a remnant of a dolerite sill, rises almost vertically to a height of about 60 feet. At that end a large mass has fallen off from it, and in its fall is said, by tradition, to have killed a woman who was milking a cow. This is the only bit of "history" connected with the spot. No one ever appears to have suspected that it had been a fort, the whole summit of the rock, before examination with the spade, being covered with grass. As the rock stands in a field which rises towards the south, and the surface of the rock dips a little in that direction, it is only about 20 feet high at that end, the sides between the ends being rocky and precipitous with occasional ledges. The greatest length of the upper part of the rock is 37 yards, and its greatest breadth 15 yards.

The dolerite of the southern half exists in plated layers: of the northern half it is massive. Where the old plated layers outcrop on the surface there are deep gutters, and this has obliged the people who occupied the summit to fill in the hollows with soil, evidently brought up from the land below, while over this they had placed a pavement, generally of thin limestone slabs, a lot of them being of the *burdee*, or rash-rit (root of the rash), a species of coral. These slabs extended over about half the area of the southern half of the rock, and the greater part of them had been laid at the time the rock was appropriated as a fort site. This is shown by two facts: first, there is not the slightest sign of occupation having taken place before the slabs were laid; and, second, above the pavement there was a dark layer in and upon which



the relics occurred. Towards the south there had, however, been a small extension of pavement, and under it two articles were found.

That this fort had been surrounded by a wall I found substantial proof of in three places and presumptive proof in seven. The three

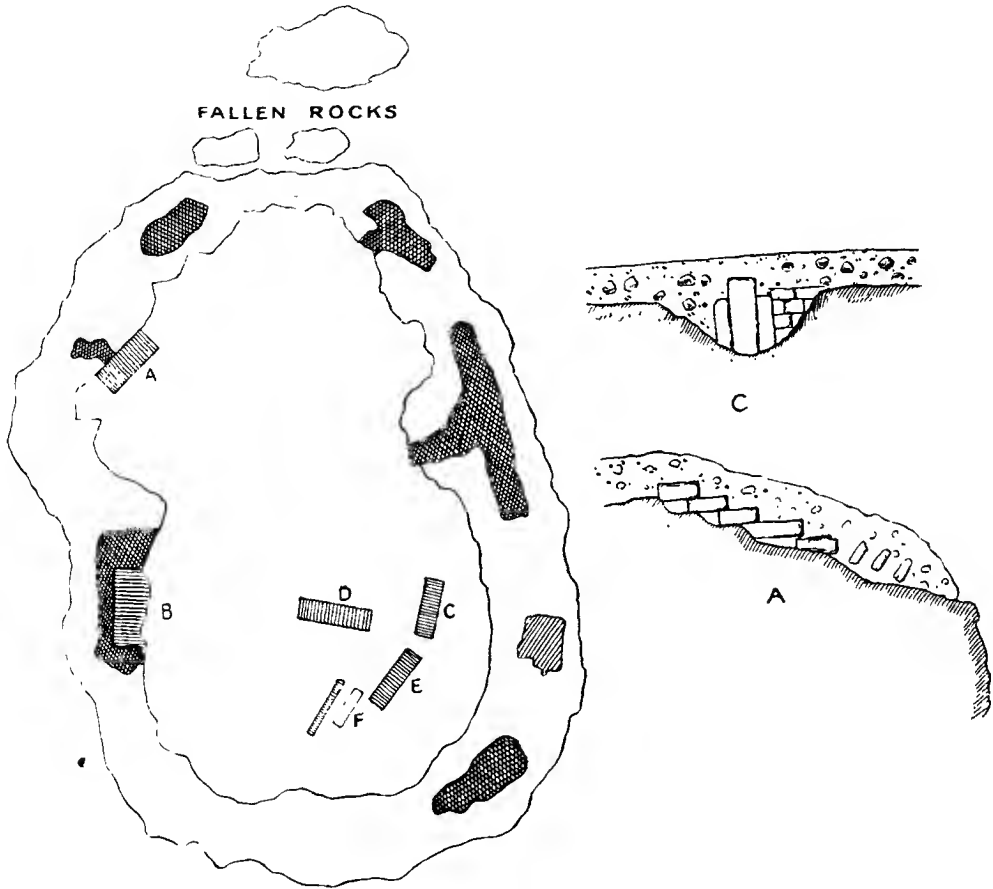


Fig. 1. Plan and Sections of Castlehill Fort.

are marked A, B, C on the plan, fig. 1. At B the wall was 9 feet thick at its foundation, and was built on a slope of the rock, the stones being underpinned and level as to their upper surfaces. At A the wall was close to the upper edge of the rock. At C it was a short distance from the edge. These remnants of the fort wall had been preserved from destruction by having been built in hollow parts of the rock, the part at C being in the deepest one and the stones placed as shown in fig. 1, c.

The largest stone—a limestone—stood about a yard high, and had been set on edge in the deepest part of the hollow.

The second proof of there having been a wall is that on the ledges there was an abundance of blocks of stone not belonging to the rock, such as limestone and sandstone, which could not have been got nearer than a quarter of a mile away. These had been thrown down from above and were lying in the manner stones take on a sloping surface, with the usual “tail” of smaller debris at the upper ends. They were also mingled with articles from the fort, broken querns, etc. At some parts this debris was covered over by 20 inches of fine soil which could be delved into without touching a stone, being evidently an accumulation of wind-blown “loess” since the fort was destroyed. It may here be remarked that there was no appearance of any glacial debris or boulders on the surface of the rock nor on its ledges.

The northern half of the surface was comparatively smooth, with little more than turf, about a foot thick, on it.

Inside of the fort there had probably been a building. At least, remnants of walls were found at the places marked D and E on the plan, and the pavement extended under these walls.

All the debris lying on the whole upper surface of the rock was turned over, as well as that on the ledges—shown in cross-hatching on the plan at seven places. On the southern half of the surface of the rock and pavement the debris was thickest, and had probably for the most part been composed of stones from the walls and any soil mixed with them that had resulted from their partial decay and from the turfs with which the stones of the wall had originally been intercalated, as well as from blown dust. All the pavement was lifted and the debris in the gutters of the rock underneath it was all cleared out.

At a point marked F on the plan there was found a long stone set up on its edge and neatly underpinned on the rock, with its long axis north and south. At 22 inches from it, and parallel, were some stones laid in building order; connected with it there were a number of rough stone slabs, an iron axe, an iron spear-head, and fragments of Samian ware.

This fort commands an extensive view of the valley of the Garnock Water. Caerwinning Hill, occupied by an old extensive fortification, is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  furlongs south-east of it. The latter had three walls of circumvallation which can still be traced by remnants, the farmers having removed most of the stones more than a hundred years ago.

There is a spring at the foot of the rock, the water of which is now conducted in pipes to the farmhouse. This spring was very conveniently situated in former times for the inhabitants of the fort.

There was a large number of bones and teeth found in the debris

of the southern half of the rock, but all very much decayed; the reason for there being anything left of them at all was doubtless the presence of so much limestone. They consisted of the remains of oxen, sheep, pig, red-deer, horse, and wolf or large dog.

Charcoal of wood was frequently found, and close to the inside of the wall there had been a fire.

The land on which the fort is situated is called Howrat, probably the original name of this rock, and meaning "fortified hill." Near it are Con's Hill, Green Hill, Caerwinning (meaning Fort of Winning) Hill, and the Blairrock—all rocky eminences.

#### RELICS RECOVERED FROM CASTLEHILL FORT.

##### *Bone Objects.*

A few bone objects, including—

Small bone implement pointed at both ends.

Trimmed fragment made from a marrow bone.

Tine of a stag's horn with a bit of the beam attached, showing where it had been partially sawn through and thereafter broken off.

Three dressed pieces of bone, the largest of which was a flat oblong,  $2\frac{3}{8}$  inches in length, all chemically treated and very solid.

##### *Stone Objects.*

Hammerstones, about a score, mostly of quartz or quartzite.

Anvil, one massive quartzite pebble,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches  $\times$  4 inches  $\times$   $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches, showing signs of much use, probably as a ridge anvil.

Whetstones, a number, the largest of which measured  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length.

Polishers, eight.

Slickstones, two: one  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches  $\times$  2 inches tapering to both ends, very smooth on the worked face; the other,  $4\frac{1}{8}$  inches long, showing evidence of use at one end.

Discs, a number, perforated and unperforated; among the latter two of the class sometimes designated "mirrors."

1. Circular,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch diameter  $\times$   $\frac{5}{16}$  inch in thickness, perfectly flat on one side, with a slight concavity on the other, polished on both sides.

2. Similar disc, 2 inches diameter  $\times$   $\frac{1}{4}$  inch in thickness.

##### *Articles of Cannon Coal.*

Two fragments of a bracelet, indicating a diameter for the complete article of about 3 inches, flat and unpolished on the inside, convex and highly polished on the outside.

A thin, polished disc,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter.

A roughly spherical object with a diameter of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch, evidently a piece in course of manufacture.

A small portion of a ring.

##### *Querns.*

Numerous broken fragments, but no complete parts. The five best-preserved pieces showed that the querns had been circular, with diameters of from 14 to 15 inches.

*Keel.*

Several pieces of red keel were found, obtained from some of the volcanic ash beds of the district.

*Cawk or Barile.*

Two lumps of cawk showing well-rubbed surfaces, one of them faceted.

*Pottery.*

Two fragments of a coarse hand-made urn, resembling pieces found on the Ayrshire raised beach sands. These had evidently been thrown over the side of a rock on to a ledge.

A number of pieces of Samian ware, several of which join and form a nearly complete shallow bowl approximating to Dragendorff type 18, with a diameter of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches. A section is shown in fig. 2. Pieces of a similar

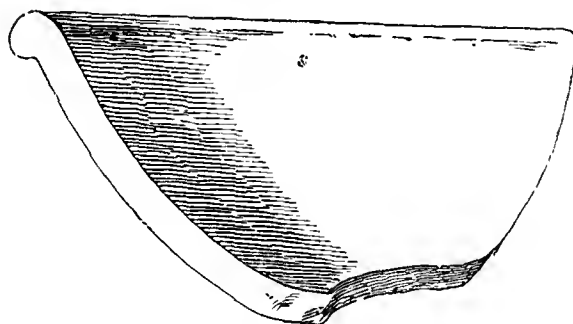


Fig. 2. Section of Samian Ware Bowl.

form were found in the ditch of the early fort at Newstead, and indicate accordingly a late first-century date. Fragment of the foot-stand of a second bowl, but not sufficient to show the form.

*Glass.*

A thick, green, reeded fragment, evidently a small piece of a handle of a large Roman glass jar.

Several bits of thick, plain glass of a similar tint, probably pieces of another such jar.

Two fragments of pale yellow glass ornamented on the surface with a series of white enamelled lines (fig. 3, No. 6). These are apparently of the same character of glass as that found on the Mote of Mark in the Stewartry of Kirkcubright, excavated in 1913,<sup>1</sup> and evidently dating from the eighth or ninth century.

A small, pale yellow fragment with a chevrony pattern, of a vesicular texture, probably produced with sand (fig. 3, No. 7). This is evidently a piece of glass analogous to a fragment found also on the Mote of Mark, in which the pattern had been produced by a similar method and which is of eighth- or ninth-century date.

<sup>1</sup> *Proc.*, vol. xlviii, p. 125.

A cane of blue glass for the manufacture of beads  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long (fig. 3. No. 4).

A similar cane of white vitreous paste (fig. 3. No. 5).

A number of beads of yellow vitreous paste of various sizes, and similar to those found on the Glenluce and Culbin Sands, Traprain Law, and other native sites in Scotland (fig. 3, No. 2).

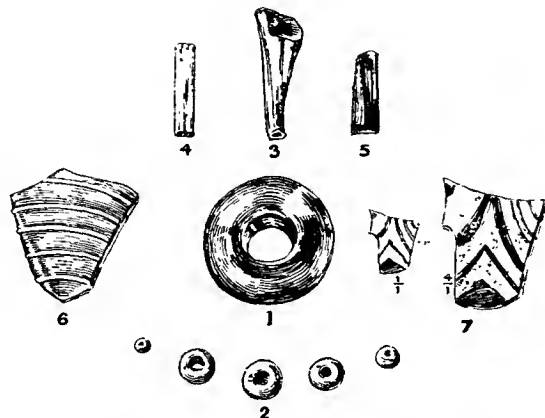


Fig. 3. Beads and Fragments of Glass from Castlehill Fort.

Pipe beads of yellow vitreous paste: and slag, showing that the beads of this material had been manufactured on the spot.

A pipe bead of light-coloured vitreous paste.

A bead of blue glass.

Part of a bangle bead of the same colour.

Fragment of a blue melon-shaped bead of Roman manufacture.

A bead of an oval section of pale yellow glass,  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch in diameter (fig. 3. No. 1).

#### *Bronze.*

A dragonesque fibula of bronze (fig. 4. No. 1). In the centre of the S-shaped body there is a flattened boss rising from a cup-like hollow, with a small inset of enamel on the top. A series of triangular spaces (some still containing fragments of translucent enamel or glass) are formed over the surface of the rest of the body. The ear-like projection of the head is flat and is crossed diagonally by two lines of rope ornament. One of the eye-sockets still retains a fragment of glass. A circular hollow at the end of each snout has contained red enamel, a trace of which still remains in one. The pin, which is much curved, is intact.

Tri-lobed sword-guard of bronze of a well-known Celtic type, which may be compared with a guard found at Newstead<sup>1</sup> and with others from Hod Hill, Dorsetshire. While these, however, bear some decoration, this is plain (fig. 5).

A small penannular brooch of bronze with pin, plated with white metal, and terminating in lozenge-shaped ends, each containing a small lozenge-shaped boss with slight projections from the angles, and hollowed in the centre (fig. 4. No. 2). This type of brooch belongs to the eighth or ninth century. Moulds for casting such were found in the excavation on the

<sup>1</sup> *A Roman Frontier Post*, fig. 19, p. 186.

Mote of Mark in the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright in 1913.<sup>1</sup> The practice of plating with white metal was also in vogue at this period, and is occasionally met with in Viking relics.<sup>2</sup>

*Iron Objects.*

Among the numerous pieces of iron the following may be noted:—

1. Large ring, not welded.
2. Axe,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches long by  $3\frac{1}{8}$  inches wide at the cutting edge, with a large shaft-hole.
3. Socketed spear-head, 5 inches long, blade  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide.
4. Socketed spear-head.  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches long, blade  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

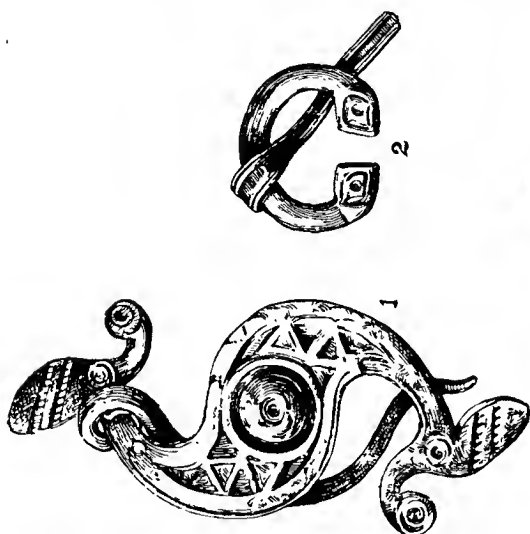


Fig. 4. No. 1, Dragonesque Fibula; No. 2, Penannular Brooch, both from Castlehill Fort.

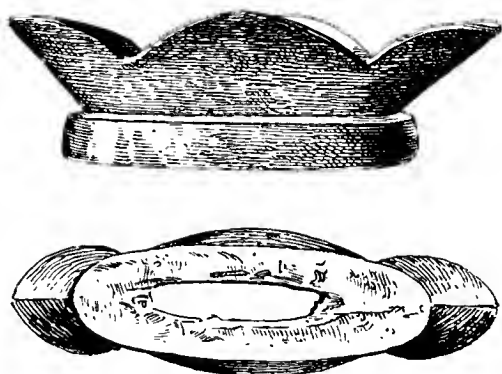


Fig. 5. Tri-lobed Sword-guard of Bronze, from Castlehill Fort.

5. Tanged spear-head,  $5 \times 2$  inches, with a large portion of the point broken off. It shows fibrous markings of a wooden shaft, and next the shaft there are the remains of some substance which had been wrapped round to fix it.
6. Tanged spear-head,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches long.
7. Part of a knife-blade which had been fixed in a wooden handle.
8. Small gouge.
9. Ring,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch diameter.
10. Broad-headed nail.

These relics indicate clearly two periods of occupation, the one contemporary with first Roman invasion at the end of the first century of our era, and the second referable to the eighth or ninth century, probably synchronising with the descent of the Vikings on our western coasts.

<sup>1</sup> *Proc.*, xlviii. p. 144.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 185.

## II. AITNOCK FORT.

This fort is situated on the summit of a cliff which rises about 60 feet perpendicularly from the waters of the Rye stream at the south-west angle of Hindog Glen near Dalry in Ayrshire. On that side the cliff would form a sufficient defence for it. To the south-west the land rises gently, and in that direction the fort had been defended by a deep ditch and stone wall, the foundation of part of the wall still remaining being

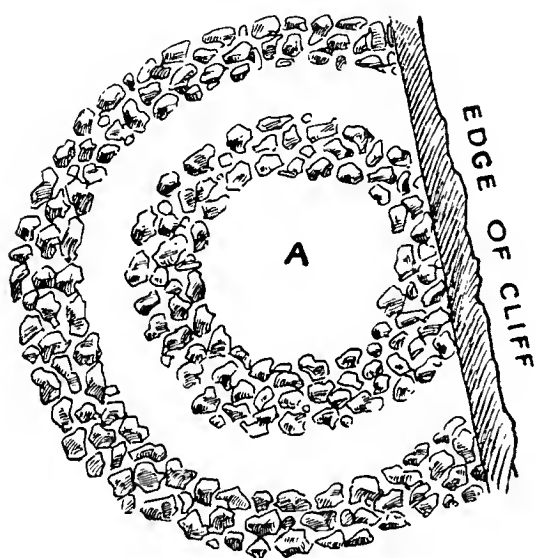


Fig. 6. Plan of Aitnock Fort.

15 feet thick and composed of rough stones and boulders, some of them fairly large. At a part where the wall was cut through there was found a thin dark layer under each stone, showing that it had probably been originally built of alternate layers of turf and stone, which would make it air-tight. The ditch, on the fort's destruction, had been largely filled up with the debris of the wall. It is at present horse-shoe shaped, but at one time it may have been carried further round the fort, while the wall had been continued right round. There is evidence of the sandstone rock having been quarried for a bit between the fort and the edge of the

cliff, but it is likely that this was done in comparatively recent times.

The fort inside the wall is nearly circular, and measures about 30 feet in diameter. The floor had been carefully constructed in the following manner. After the necessary levelling had been made it was covered with tempered clay of a yellowish colour, such as is still got in several places in the neighbourhood, and is much used in pits for luting the joints of rhones, as well as for plastering on horses' feet inflamed or with "mud fever." It may also be seen under fireplaces on the antiquarian ground of the Ayrshire sands, and in connection with the curious water-tight structure in Ashgrove Loch.<sup>1</sup> It was also found in connection with interments at King Coil's Grave.<sup>2</sup>

On the top of the yellow clay there had been placed a pavement of

<sup>1</sup> See *Prehistoric Man in Ayrshire*, p. 48.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 149.

rough slabs, and at parts water cobbles. The floor was level for the most part, but as it approached the wall it dipped gently towards it all round. During the occupation of the fort the floor had evidently never been cleaned, and on the top of the pavement a deposit, dark in colour, had accumulated to a depth in places of 6 inches. In and on this deposit the relics were found.

At the point A on the plan, fig. 6, was found a cauldron of sandstone which may weigh about 2 cwts., the well-shaped hollow in it being nearly a foot deep. It is still in its original position. Close beside it there was a fire-place of slabs set on edge, the cinders of the last wood fire being still in it. It seemed as if the cauldron had been used for holding hot water, the water being heated by stones made red hot in the fire beside the vessel and dropped into it. Of course, as the fire was near the side of the cauldron it would, so far, keep the water warm. This was the only remarkable feature about the fort. There were no partitions or stones found worthy of note, with the exception of the half of a quern which had been set up on edge, though the debris in the whole interior area was turned over.

Passing across the sandstone and under the floor there was a crack about 6 inches wide. Doubtless the rock will fall away into the stream from this fissure some day, as falls have evidently taken place before, great blocks of sandstone occupying the bed of the burn.

An irregular lump of sandstone was found which has two cup-markings, one on each side, placed almost opposite to each other. One measures  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter by 1 inch deep, the other  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches by  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch: both having been picked out.

#### RELICS RECOVERED FROM AITNOCK.

The relics found in this fort included the following:—

##### *Stone Objects.*

Hammerstones, a large number.

Anvil of quartzite,  $5\frac{1}{4} \times$  by 2 inches, much worked at one end and a large part of it stained black.

Ridge anvil of white quartz,  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 5 \times 3$  inches,  $5\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. in weight.

Whetstone of sandstone,  $3\frac{7}{8} \times 3$  inches, worn hollow.

Polisher,  $7\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$  inches.

Slickstone of quartzite, glossy on one side.

Needle-sharpener of fine-grained slate, which had also been used as a hammer.

Oval flattened stone, opposing surfaces worked flat and marked.

Disc of sandstone, imperforate and roughly made,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch in diameter, flattened.

Spindle whorl, or perforated stone,  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch in diameter, hole  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch, equal in diameter all through, now quite soft.



*Glass.*

A bead of yellow vitreous paste.

*Pottery.*

One fragment of a shallow Samian bowl, too far decayed to afford a reliable indication of its type, but it is probably Dragendorff. Type 18, and of late first-century date. There is also another piece of reddish pottery, of coarse Roman ware.

*Bone.*

There were many fragments of burnt bones in the relic-bearing layer, but no other kind of bones was seen.

One fragment of a small object of burnt bone, perforated at one end.

*Miscellaneous.*

Charcoal was found in abundance, but, though several coal-seams outcrop in the glen, no cinders of coal were observed.

Only one lump of cawk (barite or heavy spar) was found having marks of rubbing.

There were many burnt and split pebbles which may have been used as heating stones.

A few objects of iron were recovered.

Several fragments of quern stones were found which seem to have been purposely broken.

A small portion of a millstone was found which measured 5 inches by 1½ inch at the thickest part.

Several grains of wheat were recovered from the black layer.

At several parts of the interior an upper black layer of occupation was observed laid above the level debris of the walls of the earlier period, the upper floor being formed 24 inches above the older one. There was no evidence that during this occupation the fort had been used as a workshop or place for grinding corn; at least, not a single implement or quern was found in connection with it. From the centre of the black layer, however, came four denarii; these were as follows:—

1. Vespasian, Coh. (2nd ed.), i. p. 371, No. 45.
2. Hadrian, Coh. (2nd ed.), ii. p. 229, No. 1481.
3. Antoninus Pius, Coh. (2nd ed.), ii. p. 295, No. 226.
4. Antoninus Pius, Coh. (2nd ed.), ii. p. 299, Nos. 286 ff.<sup>1</sup>

The coins had apparently been wrapped in some material, and were sticking together in a mass of white lead.

### III. COALHILL FORT.

This little fort is situated on the ridge of a small hill which stands on the watershed between Dalry and Ardrossan, close to the east side of the road. The name has evidently been applied recently, coal having been

<sup>1</sup> Determined by Dr G. Macdonald.

worked at its eastern base. The ridge is of meaugerite basalt, and, as it was too narrow for a fort, had been made up on its eastern side with earth and stones which had been carried up from the base of the hill. This was quite evident, as a lot of the stones in the earth were different from the trap of the ridge.

The fort had been defended by four ditches cut across the ridge, two on each side.

The longitudinal section (fig. 7) shows two ditches on each side of the fort. The bottom of the first ditch on the north-east is at present 10 feet 4 inches below the fort, and of the second one 9 feet 4 inches. That of the first south-west ditch is 6 feet 8 inches below the fort, and of the second one 8 feet 5 inches, but there is at present some debris in the bottoms of all the ditches.

The ditches had all been cut out of solid rock; the space between the upper edges of the two southern ditches is only a yard wide, but that between the northern ones is 24 feet wide and forms a small level plat-



Fig. 7. Longitudinal Section of Aitnock Fort.

form, C on section, fig. 7. To ascertain if this was an outwork of the fort, it was all turned over down to the rock, but no signs could be found of its having been occupied—no black layer and no relics were to be seen. The irregular rock surface had, however, been levelled up with earth. It may have been a ballista emplacement.

The fort had also been defended by a strong wall, very little of which now remains, but at the south-east side the inside of it is continuous for about a third of the whole original perimeter, and there is evidence that it had been not less than 9 feet wide.

Owing to its position on a ridge, the shape of this fort is necessarily a long oval; it measures 33 feet by 24 feet inside the wall. At the west side there had probably been a recess in the wall where there may have been an outlook-hole or arrow-slit, and it had extended to within a yard of the present edge of the western slope of the hill-top. At two points there were holes in the surface of the rock where there had probably been fires, and another on the forced-earth part.

No flooring of either clay or pavement was discovered, but over the surface lay a thin dark layer, evidently the old floor, and in this layer and on the top of it the antiquities were found. Near the south end there were a few thin slabs of sandstone lying on the black layer; if they

were used as pavement they must have been laid down after the place had been inhabited for some time.

No partitions were found within the wall, nor evidence of any separate apartments.

The view from this fort is extensive: Caerwinning Fort, on Swinlees Hill, Knockrevoch Mound, Nockjargon Fort, and Cleavance Camp, Dundonald, are all seen from it. From its position and small size, its destruction (once it was captured) was easy, so that very little debris was left inside of the wall: and, as all the material was turned over, none of it was found to be more than 18 inches in depth, the bulk of the stones from the wall having been rolled down the hillsides or put into the ditches.

As no limestone had been used in the construction of the fort, no bones were preserved, as at Howrat, except some fragments of those that had been buried. The building material used for the wall had been blocks of trap, sandstone—none of them dressed—and natural boulders.

The articles found in this fort are all of stone, with the exception of a rusted bit of iron; and as these stone objects are similar to those from Aitnock and Howrat, it may have been contemporaneous in age with the earlier occupation of these two forts. No beads were found here, but the precaution of sifting the material of the black layer in water was not taken; this we have found by experience to be the only effectual way of bringing to light such small articles.

For its small size this place produced quite a lot of hammerstones. As a rule they have been very carefully worked, few of them showing a single chip broken off by a hard blow. The reason for there being such a large proportion of them made of quartz (a much inferior substance for hammers than quartzite) is that the calciferous conglomerate crops out not far from the fort.

For occasional help in the trenches I was much indebted to Mr Archibald Shanks.

#### RELICS RECOVERED FROM COALHILL.

##### *Stone Objects.*

Stone hammers, a large number, mostly of quartz or quartzite.	
Polishers, several.	Discs, imperforate, three.
Perforated stones, three.	Querns, three.
Ball, possibly for a ballista.	

##### *Iron.*

Iron, one piece only, much rusted.

I am much indebted to Mr Alex. O. Curle, F.S.A.Scot., for his great care in editing this paper and comparing articles with others got in various parts of Britain. The forts were explored in 1901-1902.

MONDAY, 14th April 1919.

J. H. CUNNINGHAM, C.E., in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following were elected Fellows :—

Major THOMAS CROCKETT, 23 Shandon Crescent.

WILLIAM KIRKNESS, Fernlea, Kirkwall, Orkney.

WILLIAM DOUGLAS SIMPSON, 418 Great Western Road, Aberdeen.

ALEXANDER MUNRO, Craggie, Rogart, Sutherland.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were intimated and thanks voted to the Donors :—

(1) By the Rev. WILLIAM BURNETT, B.D., F.S.A.Scot.

Ten Church Tokens, namely :—Muiravonside (2): Abercorn, 1832: Carriden, 1706: South Leith Tercentenary, 1909; Craigmillen Associated Congregation, 1743 and 1813; Linlithgow Associated Congregation, 1832: Falkirk: unidentified, K.A.B.C. in monogram.

(2-21) By Monsieur LÉON COUTIL, Saint-Pierre du Vauvray, Eure, France, the Author.

Le Culte de Saint-Clothilde aux Andelys (Eure) et en Normandie. Evreux, 1909. Pamphlet.

Jean-Pierre Blanchard, Physicien-Aéronaute, Les Andelys, 4 juillet 1753—Paris, 7 mars 1809. Biographie et Iconographie. Evreux, 1911. Pamphlet.

Bibliographie des Publications archéologiques, historiques et artistiques, 1884-1911, par Léon Coutil. Le Mans, 1911. Pamphlet.

Le Dohmen de la Grosse Pierre ou Pierre Couplée, de Verneusses (Eure). Extrait du volume des *Comptes Rendues de l'Association Française pour l'Avancement des Sciences*. Congrès de Dijon, 1911.

Enclumes de l'Age du Bronze, Cachette de Haches de Jarzé (Maine-et-Loire), Haches plates à bords contournés. Extrait de *L'Homme Pré-historique*, 1912, Nos. 4 et 6.

Etude sur les Pointes de Flèches de l'Age du Bronze munies de Barbelures à la Douille—Objets de l'Age du Bronze trouvés dans les Sépultures Mérovingiennes. Extrait du *Bulletin de la Société Pré-historique Française*, 1912, Nos. 4 et 5.

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(22) By T. J. WESTROPP, 115 Strand Road, Sandymount, Dublin, the Author.

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(23) By L. McLELLAN MANN, F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

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The following Communications were read:—

I.

NOTES ON THE ROMAN REMAINS AT GRASSY WALLS AND BERTHA.  
NEAR PERTH. BY J. GRAHAM CALLANDER, SECRETARY.

Very few parts of Scotland are so rich in archaeological and historical remains and associations as the city of Perth and its immediate neighbourhood. Monuments belonging to prehistoric times still survive in large numbers in the district, evidence of its connection with the Romans is seen in the remains of two forts or camps, and our historical records show that for a long period it enjoyed a prominent position in the government of the country, particularly during the Wars of Independence and the early Stuart reigns.

The reason why Perth should have been a centre of such importance for so many centuries is simply that the physical characteristics of central Scotland—the mountain masses of the Grampians on the west and the deeply penetrating Firth of Tay on the east—determined that the district should be one of the chief nodal points in the main line of communications between the south and the north of Scotland, especially as it lay midway between these parts of the country, and was surrounded by rich agricultural districts in times when husbandry was the principal industry of the land. Even at the present day, when the great industrial and administrative centres lie in the south country, the importance of Perth as a focus of land transport is demonstrated by the fact that seven lines of railway converge towards it.

When the Romans decided on imposing their rule on the north country, the most direct and, indeed, the only practicable road for their army lay through the hollow formed by the three great straths—Strathallan, Strathearn, and Strathmore—which stretch in a straight line along the north-western flanks of the Ochill and Sidlaw Hills for a distance of some fifty miles. Gradients are easy, and the only natural obstacle of any importance in the whole course of this route is the River Tay, which cuts directly across it ten miles north of Perth. No doubt the Romans had a crossing in this locality, near the fort at Inchtuthil, which lies on the further bank, but there is a good ford nearer Perth, about two miles from the town, immediately to the north of the mouth of the river Almond. This shallow was also chosen by the Romans for passing over the river, a camp being erected in the vicinity at Grassy Walls on the left or eastern bank, about half a mile above the ford, and a fort at Bertha on the western bank opposite the crossing. The locality had also the advantage of being accessible from

the sea, as the tide comes up to within 400 yards of the ford, and the Tay would be navigable for Roman shipping as far as the town of Perth.

Portions of the fortifications on the two sites mentioned still survive. That the remains are the work of the Romans is no recent discovery, as they have been recognised as such for at least a century and a half. The camp at Grassy Walls was discovered in 1771 by General William Roy, when he was engaged in investigating sites connected with the Romans in Scotland,<sup>1</sup> and the fort at Bertha was described as a "Roman Station" by William Maitland in 1757.<sup>2</sup> There is little doubt, however, that the last-mentioned site had a Roman association attributed to it before this date. For how long before we do not know, but it may be mentioned that a farm which once stood on the east bank of the Tay, almost opposite the mouth of the Almond, within 200 yards of the fort, had been known by the suggestive name of Rome for more than a century previous. The names Old Rome and New Rome both appear on Roy's plan.

During the late evenings of the summer before last (1917), I made a survey of the antiquities in the neighbourhood of Perth, and in the course of this work took the opportunity of visiting these sites and comparing the remains on them with Roy's plan and Maitland's description. I was usually accompanied by Mr George Valentine, Perth, whose knowledge of the locality was of great assistance to me, and by Mr Thomas M'Laren, Depute Burgh Surveyor, Perth, who took no end of trouble to provide copies of old plans and to measure and plan the remains which we examined.

#### GRASSY WALLS.

The camp at Grassy Walls, so called from a farm of the name that once stood here, lies on the farm of Sheriffston, in the Parish of Scone, some three miles north-north-west of Perth. Roy considered that this name had been chosen because of the grass-covered mounds, the remains of the ramparts surrounding the camp, which, doubtless, two or three centuries ago, would be more extensive and more prominent than they are to-day. The name "Grassy Well," however, as will be seen later, appears on a plan drawn in 1778, and the question thereby suggested is whether this may not be the correct name. The word "well" is pronounced "wall" in many parts of Scotland, and it is quite possible that the farm may have been served by a grassy well, as parts of the site were until late times marshy and, indeed, contained several small ponds. But there seems little ground for this theory, as I have been informed by

<sup>1</sup> Dr George Macdonald in *Archeologia*, vol. lxxviii, pp. 185 and 224.

<sup>2</sup> *History and Antiquities of Scotland*, vol. i, p. 198.

the Earl of Mansfield that, so far as he is aware, the name has always been Grassy Walls.

The site of the camp occupies the extremity of a broad spur projecting westwards from the lower slopes of the Sidlaws towards the River Tay. At the north-western corner of the spur there is a rather sudden rise in the ground forming a small hill known as Donald's Bank, which on its western side drops in a steep declivity some 80 feet to the left bank of the river, its summit being about 120 feet above Ordnance datum. The ground forms a tilted plateau, sloping generally from north-west to south-east, and standing from 70 to 90 feet above sea-level. In selecting a position that was to be fortified, Roman military engineers naturally chose one of some strength, and the site of the encampment at Grassy Walls would fulfil all their requirements, as it is bordered on the north, west, and south by steep banks, while on the east there is a slight fall in the ground before it begins to rise again towards the hills; it is also assured of a water supply from two springs within its area. On the northern boundary the bluff rises from a height of some 30 feet at the north-eastern angle of the camp to some 60 feet at the north-western angle, the Gelly Burn running along its base; on the south the bank has a general height of some 30 feet, and on the west it gradually increases in altitude towards the north till it culminates in the height of Donald's Bank. Roy's plan shows two small marshes containing pools of water within the camp—one towards the western side, and the other near the northern boundary<sup>1</sup>; but the former was drained many years ago, and is now represented by a hollow sloping down towards the Tay, and the latter, which emptied into the Gelly Burn through a small gully cut into the ridge on the northern end of the camp by the overflow of water, was only drained in the summer of 1917, between my first and second visits to the site.

From the reproduction of the plan made by Roy in 1771 (fig. 1), it will be seen that he was able to trace the rounded north-western angle of the fort, the western rampart running therefrom in a south-south-westerly direction as far as the summit of Donald's Bank, the greater part of the northern rampart, and a short length of the eastern mound where it crossed the higher end of the marshy ground at the northern end of the camp. The north-eastern angle seems to have been almost obliterated, but a projection of the lines of the northern and eastern ramparts fixed its position.

The southern extension of the camp was conjectural, and Roy indicated his views regarding its bounds by dotted lines. This plan

<sup>1</sup> *Military Antiquities of the Romans in North Britain*, pl. xii.



PL. IX  
 PLAN showing the Vestiges of AGRICOLA'S CAMP at GRASSY-WALLS on the EAST BANK of the FAY as  
 also the situation of BERTHA supposed to have been the ORREI of the ROMANS



Fig. 1. Plan showing Vestiges of Fortifications at Grassy Walls and Bertha, reproduced from Roy's *Military Antiquities, etc.*

approaches a parallelogram in shape, with the alignment of the western side projected slightly outwards so as to take advantage of the rise in Donald's Bank, and the line of the northern end brought inwards at the centre that it might cross the higher end of the small gully running into the Gelly Burn. The trace of the northern rampart bears a striking resemblance to the same defence in the camp at Raedykes, near Stonehaven.<sup>1</sup> If Roy's plan of the encampment is approximately correct, the area enclosed by the ramparts would measure about 128 acres in extent.

A track, which Roy called the "Roman Way," extended from opposite the site of the steading of Grassy Walls to the northern boundary of the camp. This road passed through the gap in the northern rampart and was said to be very distinct. The roadway extended from the eastern end of the ford over the Tay at Bertha across the flat river terrace to the bluff on the southern boundary of the fort. After crossing the enclosure it descended the declivity on the northern margin, crossed the Gelly Burn, and continued northwards in a course parallel to the river along the narrow strath on the left bank. This track is laid down on the Ordnance Survey map, as well as its continuation some two miles further north, in the neighbourhood of the farm of Berryhills, in St Martins parish.

In the Perth Museum, amongst the papers which once belonged to the old Literary and Antiquarian Society of Perth, are two plans of the camp, drawn in 1778, seven years after Roy's visit, by Mr J. M'Omie, Rector of Perth Grammar School, and one of the founders of the Literary and Antiquarian Society of Perth, which was formed in 1781. M'Omie seems to have taken a lively interest in the Roman remains in the district, as there is in the same collection two plans of what he calls the Roman camp at Fendoch, near Crieff, drawn by him. One of the plans, which is coloured, is drawn to the scale of 2 Scots chains to the inch, and is entitled "A Plan of the Roman Camp at Grassywell," and the other, which is in black and white, is drawn to half that scale, and bears the title "A Plan of the Roman Camp of Grassywell near Scoon, 1778."

The northern portion of M'Omie's plan is in general agreement with Roy, but his reconstruction of the southern part gives the camp a polygonal form with an acute angle at the southern extremity. He shows it divided into two parts by a broken line running from the north-eastern angle in a south-westerly direction, and a note explains that the area on the north-western side of the divisional line was "supposed to be the camp of the infantry," and the area to the south-

<sup>1</sup> *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.*, vol. 1. p. 344, fig. 6.

west was "supposed to be the camp of the cavalry." These sections measured 33 acres 1 rood 39 falls and 32 acres 2 roods 11 falls Scots measure respectively, which gives a total measurement of 66 acres 0 roods 10 falls, equivalent to about 84 imperial acres. The impression conveyed by the shape of the southern part of M'Omie's plan is that he had taken the flattened remains of some old "fael" dykes as indistinct traces of ramparts, but the ditch on the south-west is not so easily explained, as an ordinary drainage channel could hardly have been required so near the edge of the bluff.

At the present day the surviving portions of the ramparts appear in plantations in which there are many traces of former cultivation. In some places there is also a thick undergrowth of rhododendron, bourtree, and other bushes, so that even in the winter months, when the bracken has fallen, it is with some difficulty that the remaining vestiges of the earthen mounds can be traced. Notwithstanding this, after an interval of about one hundred and fifty years, it is possible to verify the accuracy of Roy's observations.

My first visit to the site was made on 1st May 1917, before there was much growth in the vegetation. It was hardly to be expected that any traces of ramparts or ditches would be detected on the eastern or southern boundaries or on the western side south of Donald's Bank, seeing that Roy had failed to discover any in 1771, and the land had been under cultivation ever since. The short section of the eastern rampart near the northern end, in the marshy piece of ground, had been completely levelled in the interval, and no indications of it could be seen. Remains of ramparts, however, were distinguishable in Drumshogle Wood, the plantation on the northern margin of the encampment, and in the plantation on Donald's Bank on the north-west, and these were in general agreement with Roy. A few yards back from the brow of the steep descent of the height just mentioned, overlooking a bend of the Tay, which cuts into its base some 60 feet below, was the obtuse north-western angle of the camp. The remains consisted of a slight mound rising from 18 inches to 2 feet above a distinct hollow outside. From this point the directions of the western and northern ramparts were traceable for some distance: the former, though almost obliterated, could be followed for about 100 yards, when it disappeared in a dense thicket, in a course which would surmount the 100-foot contour line, and pass a short distance east of the summit before descending the opposite side of the hill; the latter appeared as a broad low mound tending east by south through the wood, and entering the field in a direction which would carry it towards the south side of the small pond which occupied part of the marshy ground before

mentioned. Within the margin of the plantation was a gap, possibly the northern gateway of the camp, some 15 yards wide, opening into what seemed to have been a sunken way down the northern bank. The continuation of the rampart east of the pond was picked up again in the wood in the shape of a low mound spread over a width of 15 yards, and rising to a height of from 12 inches to 18 inches, running east by north towards the public road from Old Scone which goes past Waulkmill. The break in the alignment of the northern defence, already mentioned, doubtlessly was rendered necessary by the hollow and inward bend in the edge of the bluff formed by the gully leading from the pond. An extension of the mound was searched for in the wood on the east side of the public road, but as there was a thick mass of rhododendrons and many open drains at the spot, it was impossible to say whether any portion of the work at this place still survived, or had ever extended so far.

As irregularities in the growth of vegetation often give a clue to the position of ancient excavations or disturbances of the soil when these can not be determined from surface indications, I revisited the site on 10th August, by which time the crops were fully grown. The northern field next the wood was in grass and the adjoining field to the south under grain. In the latter field a strip of corn of extraordinary regularity in the matter of height, width, and colour stretched away in a south-south-westerly direction, till near the western side of a clump of trees, now removed, a distance of 100 yards, beyond which it could not be followed owing to a gentle curve in the ground. The difference between this strip of grain and the crops on the adjoining parts of the field was so marked that it could be detected from a lateral point of view a considerable distance away. It measured about 5 feet in width, stood about 18 inches higher than the grain on the east, and about 9 inches above that on the west, and, in addition, while the crop on the eastern side was dead ripe, and on the western side well turned in colour, on the ridge it was quite green. The relative shortness of the straw on the east side might be taken as evidence of a ditch on the outside of the mound. Roy's plan did not show any remains quite so far south as this, although the strip of vigorous growth must be very nearly in the same line as the short section of the mound which he planned crossing the marshy ground a short distance to the north. M'Onie, however, carried the traces of the rampart for some distance south of the marsh, and it is to be noted that he made the line of the rampart break off in a more westerly direction at a point which must be very near the spot where the high ridge of grain terminated. Later on I returned again to the site to see if it was

possible to trace the continuation of the ridge in the growing grain in the south end of the field, but saw no indications of it.

The width of this strongly growing strip of vegetation, only 5 feet, is considerably less than might have been expected if it really occupied the site of a portion of the ditch which surrounded the camp, and the strip ought to have extended to a much greater length. The value of this observation, however, would be easily determined by a little excavation.

Mr M'Laren prepared drawings showing Roy's plan superimposed on the Ordnance Survey map, but these did not prove satisfactory because the course of the Tay indicated by Roy does not agree with the map, neither does that of the Gelly Burn.

I had occasion to go back to Grassy Walls a fourth time, when investigating the site near the centre of the camp where the three Bronze Age food-vessel urns and other relics described in last year's *Proceedings* were found. This was about the New Year, by which time one of the fields traversed by the "Roman Way" had been ploughed. Some time was spent in trying to find if the line of the road could be distinguished by any variation in the soil after it had been turned over, but nothing indicating the former presence of a track could be made out.

When the Romans constructed a camp covering such a large area of ground as at Grassy Walls, we know that it was only a temporary fortification, made to protect an army on the march, and never occupied for very long. Consequently such sites do not offer the same opportunities for the discovery of relics as the smaller permanent forts. The only object found on the site, which I know, that can be assigned to the time of the Roman occupation is a coin picked up in 1907, and now preserved in the Perth Museum. Though it is very much corroded and defaced, Dr Macdonald, to whom it was submitted, was able to identify it as a first brass, probably of Trajan.<sup>1</sup>

On the narrow northern projection of the level haugh land that lies between the plateau on which the camp was situated and the river, immediately to the south of Donald's Bank, the site of "Gold Castle" is marked on the Ordnance Survey map. Roy does not show this site on his plan, although it was well known and believed to have been a Roman fort before his visit to the neighbourhood. It is scarcely possible that he would not hear about it, because Maitland had described it, giving its dimensions, only fourteen years before. He said that "the military way having crossed the Tay . . . continues its course eastwards (? northwards) between the Golden-castle on the north and a small village denominated Rome on the south, a little above Bertha; the Tay winding eastwards (? northwards), a Roman fort, called the Golden-

<sup>1</sup> *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.*, vol. lii. p. 232.

castle, is situated on its southern (? eastern) bank; at present it is about 180 yards in length, and 122 in breadth, inclosed with a rampart and ditch on all sides, except the northern (? western), where both have been demolished by the river. In this fortress is a tumulus, out of which a considerable quantity of golden coins have been dug; and therefore it receives the name of Golden-castle.

"Betwixt the aforesaid fort and the military way is a handsome square; inclosed with a rampart and a ditch, resembling a fort; but as it is full of water, with a small island in the middle, it must have been for another use."<sup>1</sup>

This is a very circumstantial account of these remains, but I was unable to discover any vestiges of works on the two sites.

A short distance south of Donald's Bank there is a broad, deep cutting with regularly trimmed sides leading through the edge of the bluff from the low terrace on the river side on to the plateau. Its large dimensions might entitle it to be considered as the work of the Romans; but as it leads directly to an old drive through the woods, it may have been excavated at a very late period.

#### BERTHA.

About two miles north of Perth, and about three-quarters of a mile south-south-west of the camp at Grassy Walls but on the opposite bank of the Tay, is the fort at Bertha, supposed by Roy to be the Orrea of the Romans. It is situated in the parish of Redgorton, on the flat, elevated terrace in the angle formed by the confluence of the River Almond with the Tay, the former stream flowing past the southern boundary and the latter past the eastern margin. On the south and east it was amply protected by the steep escarpment which rises some 20 to 30 feet above the bed of the Almond, and by the steep western bank of the Tay, which is about 15 feet in height opposite the fort. In the opposite directions the terrace extends in an almost level stretch for a considerable distance towards the north, but merges in the rising ground to the north-west some 200 yards away. It lies slightly north of the passage through the Tay known as Derder's Ford, which has a gravelly bottom, and seems suitable for carts at the present day, except when the river is high. Claims have been made that a wooden bridge once stood here.

I have already referred to the possibility that the site had been associated with the Romans by people living in the locality as far back as the first half of the seventeenth century. Whether this hypothesis

<sup>1</sup> *History and Antiquities of Scotland*, vol. i. p. 198. Maitland has mistaken his directions: apparently he has taken the Tay as running east and west at this part, while its course is generally north and south for a distance of ten miles above Perth.

is justified or not, the Roman character of the fortifications had been recognised by the antiquaries of the neighbourhood by 1757, the year in which Maitland's book was published.

After tracing the route followed by the "military way" from the Roman camp at Strageth, in Strathearn, as far as Bertha, Maitland stated that part of the northern rampart could be traced for a distance of 227 yards, and the southern rampart on the northern bank of the Almond for about 150 yards: the track of the "military way" was indicated by an arable mound, skirting the northern boundary, which was known as the Causewayridge. He also referred to Roman stones and bricks having been found on the site, but he did not know if any "inscriptional stones" had ever been discovered.<sup>1</sup>

The descriptions of the remains at Bertha, like those on the opposite bank of the Tay, are so explicit in their details that Maitland must either have been familiar with the ground himself, or he must have received his information from someone who not only knew the district well but was interested in the Roman remains of the neighbourhood. When Roy planned the site fourteen years later, he could hardly fail to have the ramparts and military way pointed out to him by local people who were familiar with Maitland's views, even though he were not acquainted with Maitland's writings on the subject. But evidently these opinions did not commend themselves to him, because he rejected the traces of remains at the "Causeway ridge" as the remnants of the northern boundary of the station, and planned the mound on the edge of the bluff overlooking the Almond—Maitland's southern rampart—as the northern defence of the fort, and showed the western end of this mound curving round towards the south to form the north-west angle (fig. 1). In so doing he made the major axis of the encampment run north and south, and explained that the "prodigious impetuosity" of the Almond had washed the site almost entirely away.<sup>2</sup> His plan shows the length of the rampart surviving at his day to have been about 220 yards, the eastern end which had been truncated by the Tay and Almond being placed about 66 yards from the western edge of the former river and about 266 yards from the eastern side.

Roy believed that it was quite possible for the Almond to have worn away the terrace for a depth of possibly 400 yards since Roman times, even though the thickness of the material transported may have amounted to an average of nearly 20 feet. This stream has a rapid fall throughout its course, and as its waters rise very suddenly, when a spate does come down their destructive power is very great. Fresh breaks on the

<sup>1</sup> *History and Antiquities of Scotland*, vol. i. p. 198.

<sup>2</sup> *Military Antiquities of the Romans in North Britain*, p. 129.

northern bank, which have taken place in recent years, testify to this. However, since the construction in 1827 of the bridge that carries the Perth and Dunkeld road over the river, about 600 yards from its mouth, the stream below it has been controlled, and the encroachments on that part of the bank where the fort is situated have been stopped. But for this it is practically certain that the rampart shown by Roy would have been carried away long ago. Landslips which took place in 1759, 1761, and 1774, and which exposed some Roman remains, are referred to by James Cant in the notes appearing in the edition of H. Adamson's *Muses Threnodie* which he published in 1774.

Local geologists with whom I discussed the question maintained that, even allowing for the powerful erosive capabilities of the river and the softness of the alluvial deposits of which the terrace is composed, and through which it has cut, it was impossible for the Almond to carry away practically the entire site of the fort in eighteen centuries, and their opinion was that, if ever there had been a fort at the place, Maitland's description was the more reasonable one.

After examining the site, I think there is quite good reason for accepting the account given by Maitland instead of that put forth by Roy. There is no doubt about the rampart on the edge of the bank overlooking the Almond. Though considerably reduced in length since 1771, it can be traced for a distance of 105 yards, but there is a wide gap near the centre caused by the formation of a broad track that slants up the bank towards the east and cuts through the mound; seemingly it occupies the same position as a narrow road which appears on Roy's plan (fig. 1). The eastern extremity of the rampart tails out diagonally over the edge of the bank, and the western stands about 20 yards back from the brink. It measures from 4 feet to 6 feet in height, and from the centre of the crest to its northern margin about 10 feet, which would give it a total breadth of about 20 feet at the best preserved part. Maitland states that it was 150 yards long, but whether Scots or Imperial measure is not mentioned: if the former, it would be about 187 imperial yards. Roy's plan, though made at least fourteen years later, shows its length as about 220 yards, or 33 yards longer. At present the distance between the end of the mound and the western edge of the Tay is some 100 yards, but, as we have seen, Roy made it only 66 yards. If Roy's distance is correct, these measurements indicate that in the interval between the surveys either 100 feet of the mound have been demolished by river action or that width of silt has accumulated on the western side of the river opposite the mound. But if we take the distance to the opposite side of the river, it will be found that the present measurement of 266 yards is practically the same as Roy's distance, because he shows the Tay



100 feet wider than the Ordnance Survey map. Silting does not seem to have taken place on the eastern side of the water, and though there may have been some accumulation of alluvium on the western bank, I do not think it can have amounted to 100 feet. It should be noted that Roy's plan generally makes the Tay 100 feet too wide, which may be the fault of the map he worked on, as he must have been a skilled surveyor, and consequently we cannot summarily reject his measurements. Still, if that part of the rampart which lies to the east of the track that slants up the bank, as indicated by Roy, be compared with the present fragment, it will be found that their lengths are about equal, in which case the position of the eastern extremity must be much the same as when Roy saw it.

On this assumption Roy's north-western angle would lie very near the northern end of the present railway bridge; on the other hand, if Roy's plan was correctly laid down in relation to the western margin of the Tay, and if no change has taken place in it, the position of the angle would be almost 70 yards east of the bridge. Near this spot is a wide, sloping trench running over the edge of the bank and forming an obtuse angle with the line of the rampart. The trench is bordered on both sides by a slight mound, and measures some 30 feet in width. While it is about 5 feet deep where it debouches on the edge of the bluff, it runs out on to the level at the northern end, and there is a gap about 30 yards wide between it and the present western termination of the rampart. At this place the rampart enters a cultivated field beside a stile, the result being that it has been completely levelled. I do not think that it is at all probable that this ditch represents the turn in the rampart depicted by Roy, because his drawing does not indicate a double wall with an intermediate ditch at this part, and he makes the western mound lie at right angles, not at an obtuse angle, to that on the north. Further, the narrow road on his plan, instead of occupying the same position as the modern footpath, as seems probable, would cut the rampart further east where now it is best preserved.

The hamlet of Bertha on Roy's plan consisted of three buildings which stood between the mound and the edge of the bluff, a short distance east of the north-western angle; all traces of these houses have disappeared, but under present conditions the space here is far too narrow to provide room for these structures. From this it is quite evident that considerable erosion had taken place at this part of the escarpment between 1771 and the time when the railway bridge was built.

Having noted the remains of this rampart, a search in the fields to the north revealed not only traces of a mound, which seemed to be confirmatory of Maitland's observations about the northern boundary of

the fort, but also indications of the western rampart, which this writer had failed to detect.

Access to the rampart on the edge of the bluff is obtained by following a footpath which strikes off the road from Perth to Dunkeld immediately to the north of the bridge over the Almond and runs eastwards along the edge of the escarpment on the north side of the Almond outside the hedge round the field. About 30 yards before the railway is reached, a distinct ridge, about 20 yards broad and about 1 foot in height, is seen crossing the track. This ridge can be traced striking through the field to the north in a north-westerly direction for a distance of some 150 yards, maintaining a breadth somewhat similar to that shown in crossing the path, but even more flattened, and about 55 yards from the northern end there seems to be a gap of about 50 feet. At the northern end the mound turns towards the railway, following a north-easterly course, and after crossing the embankment it is more clearly defined in the field to the east, where it measures at least 30 yards in breadth, rising about 4 feet above the level of the ground to the north, and rather less above that to the south. Near the eastern edge of the field, just before the high bank overlooking the Tay is reached, the mound makes a distinct curve towards the south, as if this had been the north-east angle of the fort. This mound is probably the "Causeway ridge" of Maitland, or the remains of the rampart which he mentioned as running alongside it. The surface of the terrace in the neighbourhood of the fort is wonderfully flat and regular, with no sudden rises or hollows, or even undulations: but in the field to the west of the railway the mounds are more scattered and less distinct, and here the position is plainly displayed by a regular curve at the root of the hedges beside the railway and on the southern boundary of the field. No remains of the eastern rampart were to be seen south of the north-eastern angle, and although the two angles on the southern side of the enclosure have disappeared, by projecting the lines of the surviving portions of the mounds, an approximately correct outline of the station can be obtained. In shape it apparently was quadrilateral, but not quite rectangular, with the main axis running nearly north-east and south-west (fig. 2). The north side measured 280 yards in length, the south side 293 yards, the east end 150 yards, and the west end 188 yards, the area enclosed by these lines amounting to about  $9\frac{1}{4}$  acres.

With regard to relics found at this site, Cant records the circumstances accompanying four separate discoveries which were brought about through the activities of the Almond when in spate, and his descriptions of some of the objects which were secured, and of the deposits in which they were embedded, enable us to identify their character with a greater amount of confidence than we can usually afford to writers of his time.

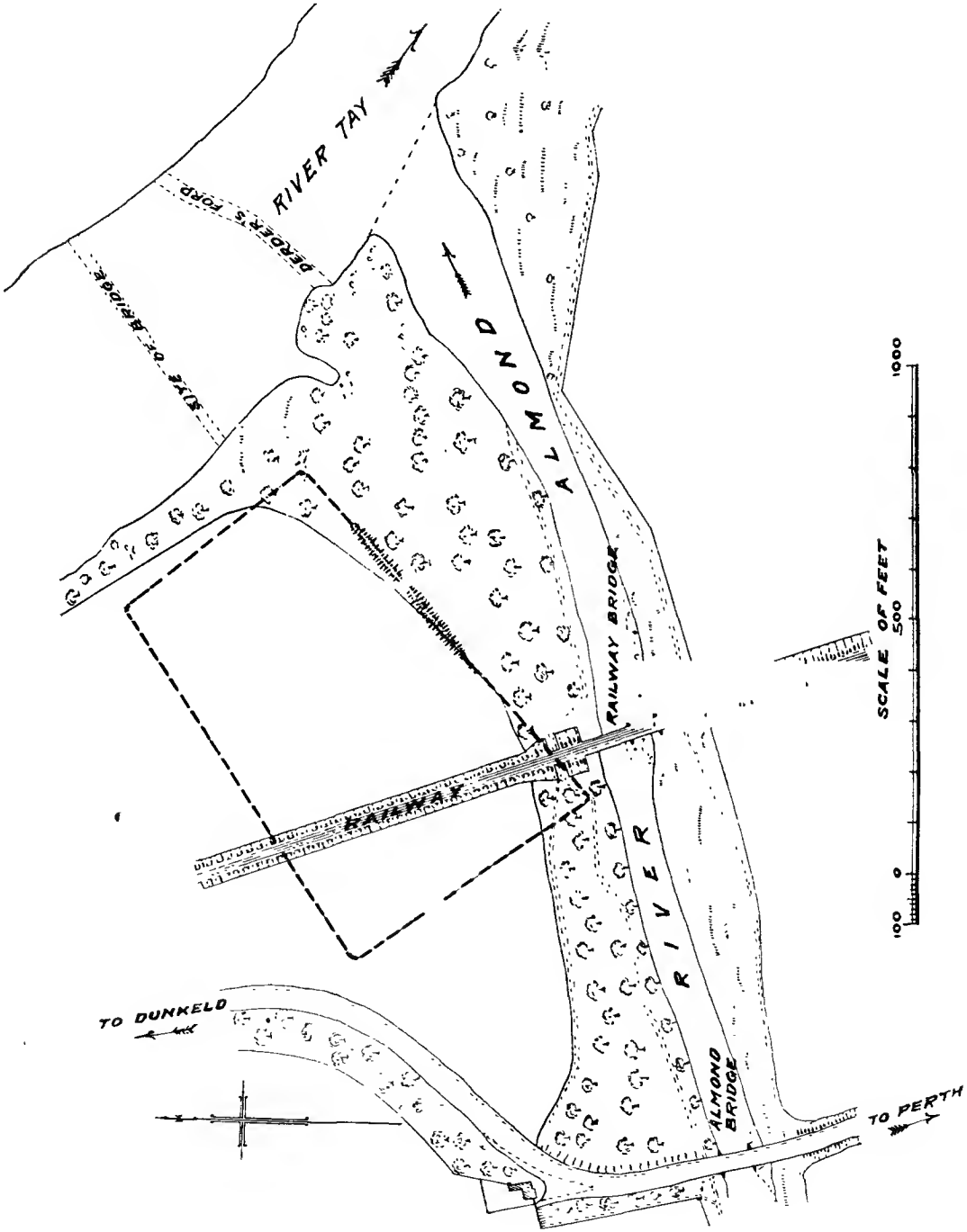


Fig. 2. Plan of the remains of the Roman Fort at Bertha.

About fifteen years before the publication of his book, that is about 1759, a labouring man recovered a large earthen pot which he saw jutting out of the north bank of the river, a little above the surface of the water, about 160 yards west of Bertha. Its mouth was sealed, and the man broke it into pieces in the hope of obtaining concealed treasure.<sup>1</sup> Apparently about the same time Cant observed six semicircular pillars of dark hazel-coloured material appear in the face of the bank, the soil of which was of a reddish colour. The pillars extended to a depth of 18 feet below the surface of the ground, and urns were seen in the bottoms of the pillars. Two years later another pillar came to light after another inundation, 150 yards west of Bertha. Cant excavated the deposit and secured an urn, but, in spite of precautions, it was broken with the spade. Its capacity was about an English quart and a half, and "it contained a few ashes of oak-wood and part of a lachrymatory, which was a small glass phial about  $\frac{1}{8}$  of an inch in thickness." All the urns discovered, except the first, were about the same size as the last. The pillars were in line 10 feet distant from each other.

The last discovery mentioned by Cant took place in April 1774 after the winter inundations had exposed another pillar to the west of these already described. From the bottom of the pillar a vase, which had a narrow mouth, two cylindrical handles, and three short round feet, was extracted. The vessel measured 15 inches in diameter, the mouth  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and the inside of the brim 4 inches: the wall was 1 inch thick, and its contents 3 or 4 English gallons. It stood on "a square brick stone with a turned-up brim like a flat tea-cup" (? saucer), which was 14 inches square and burnt black and vitrified. Beside the vessel lay some square bricks, the remains of a helmet, the handle of a spear almost consumed with rust, and a piece of wood within the socket. Underneath these objects was an "oblong square" block of lead, weighing 73 lbs., bearing an inscription on one of the sides.<sup>2</sup> The description of the vessel reads very like that of an amphora.

Mention of the "pillars" recalls the numerous refuse pits, which contained such a magnificent assortment of relics, discovered at the Roman fort at Newstead, especially when we consider that the pillars were 18 feet deep, a measurement repeated by Cant when comparing these deposits with the remains found in native cairns for the purpose of demonstrating the Roman character of the former.<sup>3</sup> If they were rubbish pits, it is difficult to understand why the occupants of the fort took so much trouble as to dig them when they could have disposed of their rubbish so much more easily by throwing it into the Tay, which ran past the wall of their encampment.

<sup>1</sup> *Muses Threnodie*, p. 52.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 21.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 28.

Regarding the exact position of the "pillars," Cant states that they were exposed about 150 and 160 yards west of Bertha, the position of which is marked by Roy. If we agree that the north-western angle shown by him was situated about the railway bridge, then they must have been exposed some 70 yards to the west of it. At this point Roy's plan shows the bluff as making a considerable curve to the north, but here again his map is faulty, as the curve should be further west and not so deep. There is every probability, however, that the pits were dug near the south-western corner of the fort, seeing that the south-west angle formed by a continuation of the rampart on the edge of the bank and the low ridge that I have suggested as the western margin would lie some 30 yards west of the bridge and some 40 yards south of the edge of the bank.

The relics mentioned by Cant do not complete the list of objects found on this site, as a few fragments of Roman glass vessels were presented to this Society in 1781. Owing to the Museum collections being inaccessible at present, I am not able to give a description of them.

In the Perth Museum are four very good Roman or Romano-British relics of bronze—two broken pateræ, one with the name of the maker [P.] CIPI P[OLIBI]; a chain with a moulded shield-shaped pendant, its ornamented openwork being in true late-Celtic style; and the massive enamelled harp-shaped fibula described by me to the Society last session. It is quite possible that these objects may have been found at Bertha, but unfortunately their provenance is unknown and they may as likely have been found on some of the other Roman or even native sites which lie within easy reach of the town.

Like the site of Grassy Walls, Bertha betrays so very little structural remains above ground that no definite conclusion can be arrived at regarding the greater part of its boundaries, but the indications of their possible position make it specially desirable that some further examination be made. A single trench cut across each of the ridges on the north and west would determine whether they represented the scattered remains of the ramparts, and if the bank in the vicinity were scraped down to a depth of a few inches traces of Cant's "pillars" might even be detected.

## II.

THE SEVEN SEALS OF LANARK. BY THOMAS REID, M.A.,  
ARNOLD HOUSE, LANARK.

The ancient and royal burgh of Lanark in the course of its municipal existence, commencing with the reign of David I., has employed seven different seals. The earliest one extant belongs to the fourteenth century: the second and third have been assigned respectively to the fifteenth and sixteenth: the fourth to the seventeenth; both fifth and sixth to the eighteenth; whilst the last is the one now in current use.

The matrix of the first seal has been lost; the Town Clerk of Lanark, however, still retains in careful custody the matrices of the other six.

## SEAL NO. 1.

This seal (fig. 1) is still preserved in the Record Office, Chancery Lane, London. It has been attached, along with other Scottish burgh seals, to the procuratory for the ransom of David II. in 1357. The wax has suffered a good deal from the corroding influence of time during its well-nigh six hundred years of existence. The border is much worn away; the legend has disappeared; but the two fishes and the double-headed eagle are still recognisable.

This seal bears a general resemblance to that marked No. 2; but Mr Joseph Bain, F.S.A. Scot., and the late Mr Robert Ready of the Seal Department of the British Museum, some years ago, compared the one with the other and found important points of difference. Thus, the wings of the eagle in No. 1 are less pointed than those in No. 2, the neck not so thick, and the claws different, whilst the two fishes are



Fig. 1. Seal of the Burgh of Lanark, 1357.

smaller. The legend, doubtless, was the same in both seals, to wit, "Sigillum Commune Burgi de Lanarck."

By letters patent issued by the Commissioners of Edinburgh the burghs appointed Adam Gilyot, Adam Fore, and nine others as proctors for the payment of the king's ransom. The grantors are stated to be aldermen, merchants, and burgesses. Those who represented Lanark were Andrew Ade or Adam and Andrew of Ponfret. The common seal of each burgh was appended at Edinburgh, 26th September 1357. The royal burghs associated with Lanark on this occasion were: Aberdeen, Inverkeithing, Crail, Cupar, St Andrews, Montrose, Stirling, Jedburgh, Haddington, Dumbarton, Rutherglen, Dunfermline, Peebles, Edinburgh, Perth, Dundee, and Linlithgow.

It may be added that the seals of these burghs are composed of light brown wax, are more or less broken, and, like the Lanark seal, gradually crumbling to decay.

It is now impossible to determine how long previous to 1357 this early Lanark seal was in use in authenticating burgh instruments.

#### SEAL NO. 2.

Seal No. 2 (fig. 2) (matrix preserved) is thus described in Laing's *Supplementary Catalogue of Scottish Seals* (published 1850-66): "An eagle displayed with two heads, not on a shield, between two lions rampant in the upper part: and two fishes (salmon?) in the lower part: the background ornamented with annulets. The legend round the border is 'Sigillum Commune Burgi de Lanarck.'"



Fig. 2. Seal of the Burgh of Lanark of early fifteenth-century date.

As regards the date of this second seal, Mr Ready is of opinion that the matrix is of early fifteenth-century make—say in the reign of James I., 1406-37.

Mr George Vere Irving, author of the historical portion of an account of the Upper Ward of Lanarkshire, in a letter written in 1867 to the late Mr Thomas Shirley, writer, Lanark, expressed the opinion that the bird in the second seal was representative not of an *eagle* but of a *falcon*. "Lanark," he says, "was in its origin a hunting seat of Alexander I. and our early Scottish kings, who

held considerable forest lands in the vicinity, extending from Mauldsley to Pettinain. My idea is that the Lanark seals represent a hunting establishment." In this opinion I do not find that he has been followed by any competent authority on Scottish seals. Edmonston, 1780; Lewis, 1846; Laing, 1850-66; Birch, 1895—all designate the bird as a double-headed eagle. Lord Bute, in his book on the *Seals of the Royal Burghs*, says emphatically: "The great two-headed bird is not a falcon. The falcon is a perfectly well-known heraldic charge, and there is a regular way of representing it, ornithologically correct and one-headed, though slightly conventionalised."

More favour has been shown to Mr Irving's assertion that the quadrupeds in the phlanges are *dogs*, not *lions*. Mr Joseph Bain makes hereanent the following remark in a letter dated 10th February 1891: "Mr Vere Irving's letter is very interesting, and the supposed lions have certainly dogs' collars on, though the tails are those of lions": whilst Lord Bute says: "We are prepared to agree to a certain point with Mr Vere Irving: we grant that the lions are hounds, and have reference to the royal chase." In all other treatises on Scottish seals which I have consulted these figures are designated *lions*. It seems safe to compromise and say they are hounds as to their collars and lions as to their tails.

Some doubt has been cast upon the opinion that the two fishes are intended to represent salmon. Laing, as quoted above, puts a point of interrogation after the name. The Clyde at Lanark, he states, was never a salmon stream. When the river in olden times flowed in a clear, unpolluted current past the Broomielaw, salmon were wont to reach the Stonebyres Fall, situate about two miles down from Lanark, but no farther. This fact may give colour to the idea that these symbols represent *trout*, as being more in keeping with the piscatorial surroundings of the burgh.

As to the ring in the mouth of the so-called salmon, "I believe," to quote Mr Irving again, "the ring is neither more nor less than the loop by which a rude hook was fastened to the line, and indicates a right of fishing." "This also," he continues, "is the origin of the fishes in the Glasgow arms, and has no concern with St Kentigern and the frail Queen of Strathelyde." One may be permitted to wonder what the good people of St Mungo have to say of this opinion.

This seal is  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter; the legend, "Sigillum Commune Burgi de Lanarek."

### SEAL NO. 3.

The mould of this seal has been assigned by Mr Ready to the late sixteenth century, by Mr Birch to the following one. It has the same



displayed eagle, but the so-called lions and fishes are somewhat differently placed. The bird would appear to have a bell attached to its dexter claw. (I shall notice the emblem of the bell later on.) The diameter of this seal is only  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch, necessitating a crowding together of the emblems and so creating a confused assemblage of symbols. The legend surrounding the seal runs, "Sigillum Civitatis Lanarcae." "Civitatis" now takes the place of "Burgi" in the former seals. The latter word is of Low Latin origin, but found in all Teutonic dialects of Northern Europe. It enters largely into the nomenclature of place names—having the original signification of a fortified place. The substitution of *civitas* for *burgum* is due, no doubt, to the revival of learning of the sixteenth century, and may have been adopted under the influence of Buchanan and his school.

#### SEAL NO. 4.

On the 4th November 1657 the Town Council of Lanark passed the following resolution:—"The Baillies and Counsall appoynts the staine wecht to be made up with the remanent small wechts and put in the stanage and als the sealls of the burgh to be maid of new." In all probability Seal No. 4 was the result of this resolution. An extract of a deed of date 8th August 1672 has been found with this seal attached to it. It appears, however, that its use was not exclusive of former seals; for an extract of an Act dated 17th November 1631 is attested by a seal derived from the matrix of Seal No. 2. It is to be noted that in the present seal the lions or hounds, the salmon or trout, and the bell have all disappeared; and that the only emblem left is that of the displayed eagle. The background is occupied with a floral display of wavy sprigs and flowers; whilst the Scottish thistle appears on the border between the words Sigillum—Civitatis—Lanarcae. It has been supposed that the design and stamp are due to a foreign artist, probably French. This seal measures  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch across.

#### SEAL NO. 5.

Seal No. 5 (fig. 3) is of later date, and appears to be of the eighteenth century. Here the animals, fishes, and bell reappear. The eagle is common to all the burgh seals. Mr Vere Irving, as has been already noticed, was inclined to call the bird a falcon. The nature and size of the bell, however, which is here seen to be attached to the right foot of the bird, militates against this supposition. "The hawking bell," remarks Lord Bute, "is well known as a heraldic charge, and is represented exactly as actually used. The employment of these bells attached to the hawk's legs is to indicate the position of the bird, should it become lost to sight; and the object is to make it as small and light as possible so as not to hamper the bird's flight. It is accordingly a very small and thin bell,

about the size of a berry, having an open slit in it and containing a smaller metal ball which rattles about within. Now the bell of the eagle of Lanark is not tied to the leg, but held in the claw, and it is not the hawk's light bell, but a heavy bell of the ancient Keltic church type, the sole effect of fastening which to a hawk's leg would be to tether the bird to the ground." "It is exactly," he continues, "like the bell of St Kentigern, which appears in the arms of Glasgow, and we believe it to be that bell, imported from the arms of Glasgow into those of the capital town of the county in which Glasgow is situated, and of which it would not have been a violent metaphor to say that it actually stood within sound of the much venerated relic in question. It is perhaps worth observing that the image of the bell does not appear in the arms of Lanark until about the same time that the thing itself disappeared from the authentic records of Glasgow, where it is mentioned by Mr Macgeorge in his *Inquiry as to the Armorial Insignia of the City of Glasgow* as being used at least as late as 1661 by a bellman who went about the city to announce deaths. All trace of it has now disappeared. Is it possible that it was transferred to Lanark at some time subsequent to 1661?"



Fig. 3. Seal of the Burgh of Lanark of eighteenth-century date.

These concluding remarks of Lord Bute must have been written in absence of any knowledge of the fact that the bell makes its appearance in seal No. 3, one that must have been in use long previous to 1657, when its French successor was ordered "to be maid of new." The suggestion in the closing sentence, even making every allowance for imaginative commentary, is too fanciful to be entertained historically.

#### SEAL NO. 6.

On the 9th July 1814 the Town Council authorised a new seal to be engraven "to be used in room of the present which is too small." The seal here referred to as being "too small" measures about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch across; the new one has a diameter of 2 inches. This is seal No. 6. It is thus described by Mr Laing in his *Descriptive Catalogue of Ancient Scottish Seals*: "An eagle displayed with two heads placed heraldically on a shield; the two lions in chief being passant counter passant; and two fishes (salmon?) in the lower part; the bell pendent to the dexter claw by a string of the last. The legend is 'Sigillum Civitatis Lanarcae.'"

## SEAL NO. 7.

This seal has only lately been adopted by the Town Council, and its design is due to the initiative and excellent taste of Mr James Annan, the present Town Clerk.

It is thus described by Lord Bute: "An eagle with two heads displayed, holding in his dexter claw an ancient hand-bell; in the flanches two hounds paleways confronté, collared, and belled; in the two base points as many fish hauriant adorsed, that on the dexter in bend and that on the sinister in bend sinister, holding annulets in their mouths."

In all these seven seals, whatever symbols be changed or omitted, the eagle remains invariably present.

The question may be asked, How comes it that the ancient and royal burgh of Lanark and the town of Perth—to take at least two typical instances—have assumed the eagle, either single or double-headed, as heraldic emblems? Is there any reason resting on fact or fancy for the use of this symbol in a burgh coat of arms? The answer cannot be given with definite assurance of being absolutely correct. It would appear that the underlying idea in choosing the eagle for such ancient burghs as the two just mentioned is to give expression, heraldically, to the traditional belief that they owe their origin to a Roman foundation. One of the towns mentioned in Ptolemy's Geography, situated in the district now known as the Upper Ward of Lanarkshire, was Colania, which name, by some writers, in its midmost syllable has been associated with the first in Lanark. Be that as it may, this supposed origin, viz. that Lanark was founded by the Romans, seems to have given rise to the adoption of the imperial eagle, single or double, as emblematic of its original foundation by the legionaries of Rome.

Several Scottish burghs, not all ancient and royal, have emblazoned the eagle on their common seals. The following may be noticed:—Airdrie, which has assumed the double-headed eagle on its seal, derived from the coat of arms of the Aitchison family, on whose lands the town has been built; Dalbeattie, in Kirkcudbright, has as a design for its common seal a shield bearing the coat of arms of the old Earls of Nithsdale; Perth, on its supposed foundation by the Romans, has placed its heraldic shield on the breast of an eagle, sometimes represented with two heads; Tillicoultry, the shield of which is divided into four parts, one of which contains a spread eagle, adopted from the Wardlaw-Ramsay coat of arms, Colonel Ramsay being the proprietor of Tillicoultry Estate and superior of the burgh.

The Lanark seals in the course of their long history were used for other than purely municipal purposes. It was customary for the various

trades in the town to borrow the burgh seal with a view to its being employed to attest their own documents. The seal of cause, as it was called, was granted to the weaver craft in 1660; to the tailors the same year; and to the smiths in 1662. This lending of seals necessitated a periodic ingathering, as is recorded under date 8th August 1695:—"The Baillies and Councill appoynts the haill seals to be brought in and laid in the charter chist; or if given out that they be marked. James Young merchant, depons he has non of the toun's sealls but one whilk he hes to deliver this efternoon."

The Town Clerk, Mr James Amman, says that there are several instances in the burgh of unauthorised use of the Lanark common seal. Thus the Gas Company of Lanark and the Trustees of the Templar Hall employed the burgh seal without the motto on their official documents; and further, that the seal of the County of Lanark, previous to the appointment of the County Council system, was similar to that of the Burgh of Lanark; and since then a design for the use of this body has been made up of a blending of the cognisance of the Houses of Hamilton and Douglas. The old gate at the Council Chambers had the split eagle engraven on it; and the police helmet bears the burgh emblem of the spread eagle.

There are seventeen royal burghs of Scotland that date back to the twelfth century. Of these—a list of which has previously been given under the seal of 1357—the following six have not recorded their seals in the Books of the Lord Lyon, viz. Dumfries, Haddington, Inverkeithing, St Andrews, Selkirk, and Lanark. It might well form a subject of consideration on the part of the present Town Council of Lanark to come to a voluntary resolution to have the present appropriate and beautiful coat of arms matriculated in the register of the Lyon Court. This would be a fitting sequel to Mr Amman's artistic skill in the choice and arrangement of the various heraldic emblems of the seventh seal of the ancient burgh.

MONDAY, 12th May 1919.

DAVID MACRITCHIE. Vice-President. in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken,

M. LÉON COUTIL, Correspondant du Ministère de l'Instruction Publique. etc., etc., Saint Pierre du Vauvray. Eure. France.

was elected an Honorary Member on recommendation by the Council.

There was exhibited by Mrs Young (late of Burghead), 7 Great Stuart

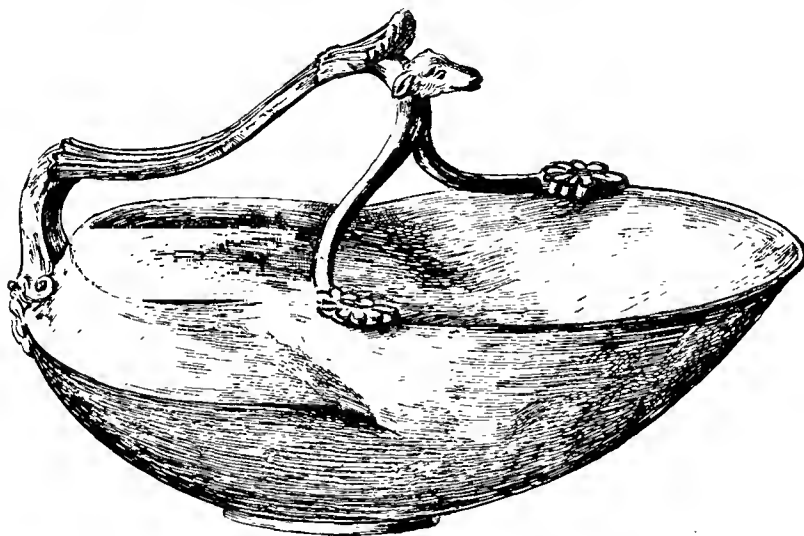


Fig. 1. Roman Vessel of Bronze found near Stanley, in Perthshire.

Street, a boat-shaped vessel of bronze of classical workmanship (fig. 1), with an extreme length of  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches and a maximum breadth of  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches. The vessel, which has evidently been intended for the serving of some liquid, is slightly constricted towards the centre in such a way that the upper edges of the hindward parts tend to become overhanging and thus prevent spilling. The handle, which is admirably adapted for its purpose, is designed on lines which suggest the upper portion of a rudder. At the point of contact with the exterior,



Fig. 2. Medusa-Head on Roman Vessel of Bronze.

the "stern" is decorated with a Medusa-head (fig. 2), while the grip, which runs lengthwise above the middle of the vessel for about one-

half of the distance, curving gracefully on the way, is fluted and terminates in a leaf-shaped ornament. From the bottom of this ornament there issues a support of quadrangular section, which presently bifurcates into two curving arms, each resting on a side of the vessel and having its lower end decorated with an oval-shaped rosette. Immediately above the point of bifurcation is a sheep's head. The base is a disc with a diameter of  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches, ornamented with four concentric circles. The surface of the whole appears originally to have been finely patinated, but the patina has in large measure been removed. The vessel is said to have been found some years ago near Stanley in Perthshire, and dates probably from the first century of our era.

There was also exhibited by Mr A. E. Mahood, Villa Messina, Tiverton, Devon, a stone mould for a button 1 inch in diameter, having a central projecting point with six others placed radially around it. It was found in the garden of Mr John Gordon, Bookseller, Banff.

The following donations to the Museum and Library were intimated and thanks voted to the donors:—

By Miss B. WILSON, 2 Downie Terrace, Musselburgh.

Token of Pilmuir Free Church, 1843.

By Mr JOHN MURISON, 18 Poplar Grove, Hammersmith, London, W. 6.

Map of the City of Edinburgh from "*Civitates orbis terrarum*," published by G. Braun and F. Hagenberg, at Cologne, 1574-82.

The following Communications were read:—

## I.

FURTHER NOTES ON ANCIENT WOODEN TRAPS—THE SO-CALLED  
OTTER AND BEAVER TRAPS. BY ROBERT MUNRO, LL.D.,  
F.S.A.Scot., AND PATRICK GILLESPIE, Esq.

The first general account of these curious objects was published in my *Lake-Dwellings of Europe* in 1890 (pp. 179-184), an abstract of which appeared in the reports of the British Association for the same year. On the 12th of January 1891, I read at this Society a paper on these traps, giving a detailed account of the discovery, structure, and distribution of all the specimens then known to me throughout Europe. From the publicity thus given to these objects others soon came to light in various parts of Europe, the upshot of which was that, in 1897, I wrote a complete monograph on the subject entitled "A Strange Chapter in Comparative Archæology" (*Prehistoric Problems*, pp. 239-286). In 1917 I had occasion to give an address on Comparative Archæology to the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society, in the course of which I referred to the ancient traps as an excellent illustration of the theme of my discourse, and summarised the result of researches up to that date in the following remarks:—

Shortly after my attention was directed to these traps I collected notices of nine or ten of them, all of which had been dug out of peat-bogs at different times and in widely distant localities. Since then many more specimens have come to light throughout Western Europe. The conjectural functions assigned to them are fanciful to an unusual degree. Two or three found in North Germany were described as otter- or fish-traps. A specimen turned up by a peat-cutter in North Wales was regarded by a high authority as a musical instrument. One from Ireland was held to be a fish-trap, a pump, a cheese-press, and a machine for moulding peats. In Italy three newly discovered specimens were described as models of prehistoric boats. Carl Deschmann, Curator of the Laibach Museum, labelled the two in his keeping as *Biberfille*, because in the lake-dwelling near to which they were found there was a profusion of the bones of the beaver, but none of the otter. Other writers regarded these objects as traps for catching wild ducks. In Ireland, which has now yielded eleven specimens (see figs. 1 and 3), no remains of the beaver have been found in its post-glacial deposits, so that the beaver-trap theory cannot apply to the Irish machines. At the present time (1917) the recorded number of these traps amounts to forty-one, and their geographical distribution

embraces Carniola, Lombardy, Germany (several localities), Denmark, Wales, and Ireland (three localities).

These machines are so alike in their structural details that they must have been constructed on a uniform plan. Briefly, this consisted of a prepared block of wood, two or three feet in length and perforated in the middle by an elongated aperture (figs. 1 and 2). Into this aperture a valve, movable on projecting pivots at one side, was ad-

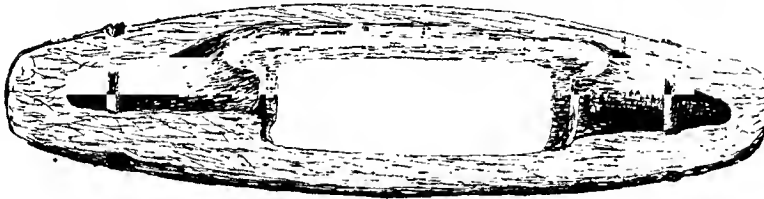


Fig. 1. Wooden Trap found in a Bog at Clonetrace, Ireland. (Univalvular.)

justed, so that when the aperture was open the valve stood at right angles to the surface of the machine. Over the valve an elastic rod stretched along the whole length of the machine, so arranged as to have a to-and-fro movement at each end. When the valve was open the elastic rod was forcibly bent upwards and backwards, and to keep it in this position a bit of stick was inserted to which the bait was attached. When an animal pulled the bait the bit stick gave way

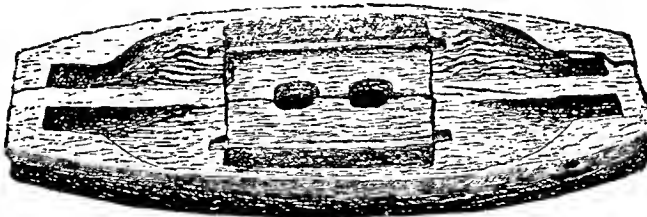


Fig. 2. Wooden Trap found in Laibach Moor, formerly a lake. (Bivalvular.)

and the valve closed with a bang, caused by the pressure of the elastic rod, and thus caught the otter, or beaver, or duck by the neck. Looking at the *modus operandi* of these ingenious contrivances, I find that they are divisible into two categories, according as the aperture is fixed with one (fig. 1) or two valves (fig. 2), the latter being simply a re-duplication of the parts of the former. It is somewhat significant to find that all the traps hitherto discovered within the British Isles, twelve in number, were univalvular, while on the Continent only one, now preserved in the Museum of Danzig, belonged to this category.

In the month of February 1919 I had a communication from



Mr Patrick Gillespie of 82 Fenchurch Street, London, drawing my attention to a rubbing from a stone monument at Clonmacnois, Ireland, showing a stag, apparently trapped in some kind of wooden structure, and suggesting that the machine might be one of the so-



Fig. 3. Three Traps from Nine found in Larkhill, Ireland. (Univalvular.)

called otter or beaver traps. On looking at the reproduction of the Clonmacnois sculpture in the volume of the Society's *Proceedings*, I at once saw that there was some foundation for Mr Gillespie's suggestion. So I asked him to write a short note on the subject, and that I would bring it before the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, along with some comments of my own on these mysterious machines. The

supposed functions assigned to them by their respective discoverers have been so different that their use in capturing deer is not so *outré* as many of the uses already attributed to them. At any rate, the stag sculptured on the Clonmacnois slab is evidently trapped by the foot in an elongated hole in a wooden structure which looks like the valve of one of the famous wooden traps, now so abundantly found in Ireland. If a deer put his foot into the aperture of one of these traps and could not extricate it, the animal would be so hampered that the huntsman would have no difficulty in capturing it. But the question is, What would induce a deer to put his foot in such a hole? At Larkhill Bog there were nine traps arranged in a circumscribed group from 1 to 1½ foot apart from each other. But it is not suggested that the object of this grouping was to place so many traps on some favourite spot which deer frequented on the chance that one of the herd would accidentally get caught.

Fig. 3 is a photographic view of three of the Larkhill group, the largest of which is 4 feet long and 9 inches wide in its greatest width, and containing a rectangular aperture measuring 17 inches by 5 inches. It is the under side of the trap which is here exhibited in order to show the marked bevel all round the aperture, which seems to be a common feature in these machines. The upper surfaces are, however, seen in the other two traps figured, and both show their valves, one closed and the other open, together with some remains of the elastic rods, which, it is stated, were made of hazel-wood.

The following is Mr Gillespie's communication on the subject:—

NOTE ON THE SCULPTURED FIGURE OF A STAG ON A CROSS SHAFT  
AT CLONMACNOIS, IRELAND, IN RELATION TO THE ANCIENT  
WOODEN OBJECTS KNOWN AS OTTER OR BEAVER TRAPS.

In the volume of *Proceedings* of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland for the years 1890-1891 there was published by Dr Robert Munro, the Secretary, a notice regarding certain wooden machines found in peat-mosses and old lake bottoms in Ireland, Wales, and on the Continent. After describing, with full illustrations, the specimens which had at that time been discovered, the Doctor discussed the many theories put forward as to their use, but, while inclining to think they were otter traps, he left the question practically open and to be settled by future finds or by possible historical evidence.

It is some years since I read this paper, but whilst glancing lately

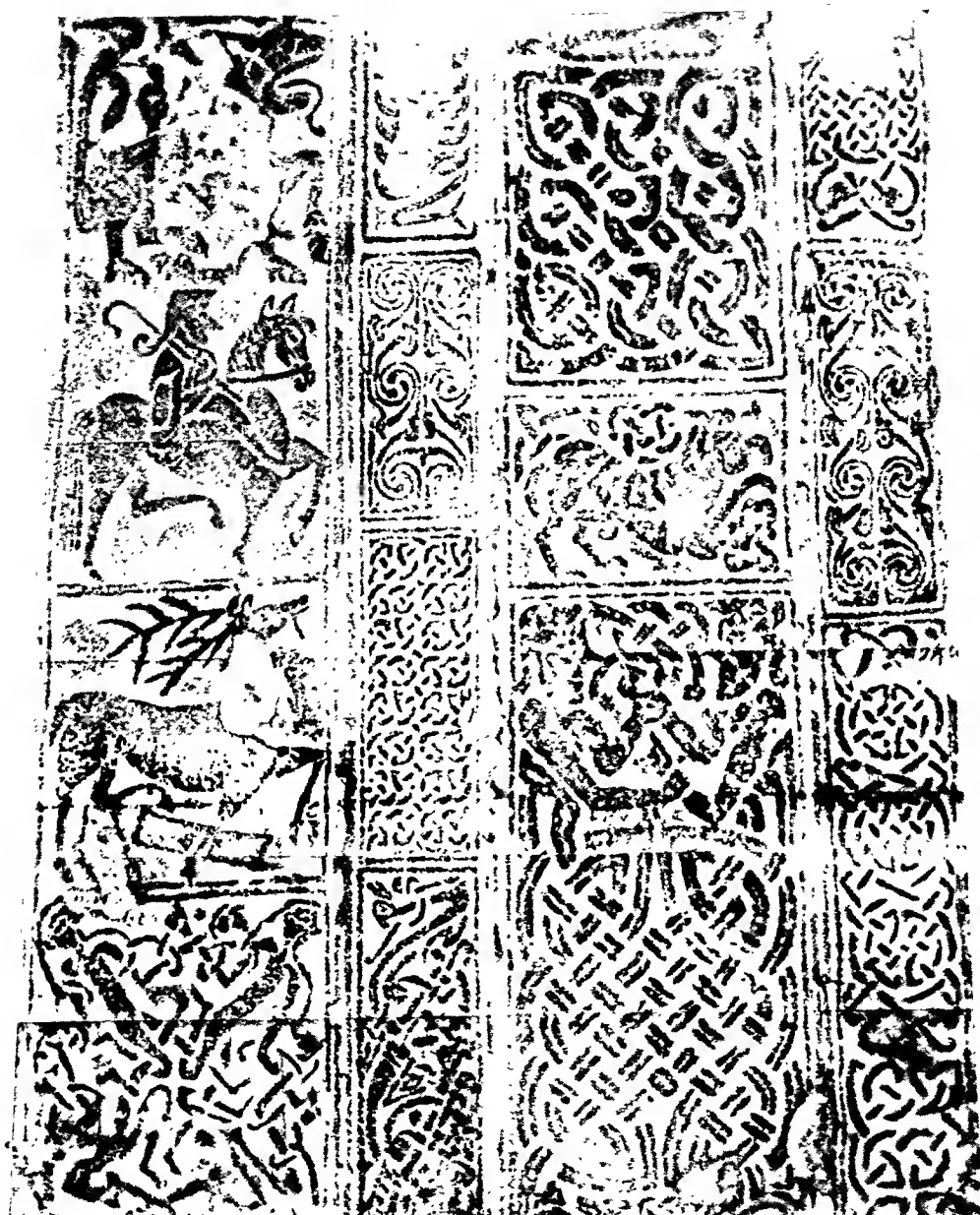


Fig. 4. Cross-slab at Clonmacnois showing figure of Stag in left-hand panel.

at the illustrations of Irish sculpture in an article by J. Romilly Allen, published in the *Proceedings* of the Society for 1896-1897. I noticed on p. 310, on a cross shaft at Cloumaenois (fig. 4), the figure of a stag with its foreleg caught in what is described in the context as a "rectangular frame or hobble." This hobble at once struck me as being so very like the traps described in the paper referred to, both as regards shape, apparent size, and even in the detail of the depression shown in the rubbing of the shaft, that the question at once presented itself—Are all these objects, wherever found, not simply *deer* traps of a kind known and used in Ireland at the time of the cross carving at Cloumaenois, which is considered, I believe, to be about the eighth or ninth century, A.D.?

In favour of this view, it may be remarked that deer have been, and probably still are, captured in the far East by means of traps made on the same principle, but of bamboo and with quite different details, and further, to account for the usual finding-places of the traps, that they would naturally be set about the usual drinking-places of the deer, and possibly under water for concealment, thus becoming covered and preserved by the deposit of peat.

Whether the evidence of the Cloumaenois stag is strong enough to justify the conclusion that the objects in our Museum called otter traps are really deer traps, is a question to be decided by archæologists competent to judge; but should the answer be in the affirmative, it might be of importance as supplying an approximately dated horizon for the level at which such objects are or may later be found in any particular peat-moss or deposit.

This would help in estimating the age of articles found below or above this horizon, and might also throw some light on the geological history and age of the deposit itself.

At the suggestion of Dr Munro, I have put on record the existence of the Cloumaenois carving (in its relation to the traps) and the conclusions to which, to me, it appears to lead, in the hope that they may interest members of the Society and lead to further inquiry.

## II.

THE MINOR SOCIETY OF SCOTTISH ANTIQUARIES. BY GEORGE  
MACDONALD. C.B., F.B.A., LL.D., F.S.A.Scot.

Last autumn I had occasion to visit the Bodleian Library, chiefly in order to examine the manuscript collection that had belonged to Richard Gough, the well-known English antiquary, who died in 1809. My immediate object was to see whether the material that had been gathered for the contemplated third edition of the monumental *Camden* contained any unpublished items of information relating to the occupation of Scotland by the Romans. Unfortunately the quest was not successful. Gough's notes recorded no discoveries that were not already familiar. As a matter of fact, so far as the proposed additions to the Scottish part of the work were concerned, he had drawn mainly upon the original *Statistical Account of Scotland*, the various volumes of which do not seem to have come into his hands until after his edition of 1806 had gone to press. Yet the scrutiny of his papers was not entirely fruitless. It brought to light a curious episode in the early history of our own Society, of sufficient general interest to merit a brief notice.

In glancing over the printed catalogue of the Gough MSS., my eye was caught by the following entry:—

“18309: In English, on paper: written in 1783-5:  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$  in., vi+116 pages. The original ‘Minute Book of the Minor Society of Scottish Antiquaries,’ 1 Feb. 1783-13 Aug. 1785.

This volume is not certainly a Gough book.  
Now MS. Gough Scotland 2.”

The thin quarto thus described was sent for, and proved to be still in the marbled covers that had formed its original binding. When it reached the Bodleian, the pagination had run from 3 to 69, but in process of cataloguing there had been added i-vi, 1-2, and 70-116. Page iii was occupied by the title: “The Minute Book of the ‘Minor Society’ of Scottish Antiquaries,” while on pages 3-69 there had been entered, in a moderately well-developed hand, the formal record of a series of meetings held in the “Musæum,” at stated intervals, over a period of two and a half years. It was plain that the Major Society whose existence was postulated could be no other than our own. The story of this long-forgotten child, dead and buried for four or five generations, seemed worth a more leisurely investigation than was possible at the moment, and the necessary opportunity was provided by the Council who, on the

matter being reported to them, gave instructions to have a copy of the Minute Book made for preservation among their archives.

There is no minute of the gathering at which the Minor Society was originally constituted. When it met on 1st February 1783, it was already in being, for it plunged at once into the business of balloting for new members and accepting donations for its museum. Apparently, however, the constituent assembly—which we may presume to have been held about the beginning of the year—had consisted of seven persons. Besides forming themselves into a Society and arranging to meet on the first Saturday of each month, those present must have elected the Secretary and the two Vice-Presidents whom we find functioning throughout. A third Vice-Presidentship was created in December, and a couple of months later there were appointed two Censors whose duty it was to “inspect such papers as are given in by any of the Members or others and report to the first meeting after such papers are given in, whether or not they are proper to be read at the meetings of the Society.” No doubt there was also a President, but his name is nowhere mentioned, unless indeed it was the Earl of Buchan for whom this honour was reserved. He had certainly some cognisance of the Minor Society, for express acknowledgment is made of his kindness in securing for it the privilege of using the rooms of the Major Society as headquarters.

The opening minute bears that the Secretary was ordered “to draw up a form of Rules for the Society to be laid before and considered at the next meeting.” On 1st March this was produced accordingly, and was “ordered to lye on the table and some more by Laws to be added.” At the April meeting the draft was read a second time and “finally approved of.” As the rules were never actually engrossed in the book, we are in the dark as to their purport. So far, however, as procedure is concerned, they would appear to have been closely modelled upon our own. That, at all events, is the conclusion suggested by the regular routine of business as reflected in the minutes—election of new members, letters to the Secretary and other competent business, reading of a paper, announcement of donations to the Society’s collections. The likeness to our ‘Proceedings’ is unmistakable, although there is one recurrent phrase that betrays the “prentice hand.” When a newcomer is recommended for election, whether as an ordinary or as a “correspondent” member, it seems always to be, not his name, but he himself that is “order’d to lye on the table to be ballotted for at the next meeting.”

The list of donations almost invariably occupies the lion’s share of the space. These are of the most miscellaneous character. In the voracity of its antiquarian appetite the Minor Society out-groined Captain Grose himself, even if we take the latter at Burns’s valuation; that

of course, was characteristic of the time, and the pages of Smellie's *Account* and of *Archæologia Scotica* show that the Major Society opened its mouth every whit as widely. Coins of many countries and of various ages bulk more largely than anything else. Prehistoric objects are few and far between, but on 3rd January 1784. Mr Graham Spens—one of the keenest and most energetic of the members, who unfortunately died before the Society itself—presented “some human bones which he found in the links of Gullen among a heap of stones which are called cairns.” The minute adds that “there are several about that place,” an observation which the pages of our *Proceedings* amply confirm. More typical of the general character of the collection is the following entry, under date 3rd July 1784:—

“There was presented by Mr Mark Watt a copper Danish skilling of K. Christian the 7<sup>th</sup> dated 1771: a brass British Medal: a set of Gold weights and scales used in the last Century which Mr Mark found on Braid Hills: a small box made of lignum vitæ containing a raisin with a curious twisted branch growing from it and a very large cherry stone which he found in one of the Meadow Parks on the South of Edinburgh.”

The communications read to the Society range over a wide field. The first of which there is any record was “a dissertation upon Eagles in general,” by Mr John Little. As a rule, however, the antiquarian flavour was more distinctly perceptible. Thus we find the Secretary, who was throughout the most voluminous contributor, giving “an account of the Antient Druids,” “a Historical Anecdote of the history of the standing Stone of Kirkhill now Bellmont,” and a paper on “the ancient Monuments and curiosities of Orkney and Shetland,” while there was also an anonymous “Description of the standing stones in the parish of Stainhouse in Orkney.” *Vixere fortes ante Agamemnona*: we have here an anticipation of the Rhind Lectures for 1918. Crimes and bloody happenings of all kinds had an obvious attraction for the members. The Society, for instance, listened to an exposition of the “origin of the quarrell which caused the combat between the McPhersons and the Davidsons on the North Inch of Perth in the time of King Robert III.” One would like to have imagined Sir Walter Scott, then a boy of twelve, as present on this occasion. But the minutes are most punctilious in noting the presence of strangers, and they lend no countenance to the idea. Kindred subjects of discussion were “the murder of the family of MacIntosh of Tirinie by the Earl of Badenoch and Athole,” and “the Trial of Christian Hamilton for the murder of Lord Forrester anno 1679.” A less exciting theme was “a Copy of a note of a sermon written by one of the predecessors of Mrs Abernethy Drummond in the reign of King William the orriginal

of which is in the possession of the Society of Scottish Antiquaries among a collection of Hawthornden's Manuscripts."

Before it was six months old, the Society realised the need of unbending itself annually. The minute of the meeting held on 7th June 1783 has the following entry:—

"The 5<sup>th</sup> of July being appointed to be held as the anniversary of the Society Mr G. Spens and the Sec<sup>y</sup>, were appointed Stewards to go to the Country to a Gardners and order a Dimer and each Member to have a shilling a piece, which was agreed to."

The idea of dining at a gardener's seems quaint, but is perhaps to be explained by the fact that July was the strawberry season. The experiment at all events was clearly satisfactory, for next year the terms of the motion were much more definite:—

"Moved and agreed to that the Society do keep their Anniversary Dinner at Alexander Pauls Gardener a little to the Southward of the Gibbet Toal."

The Ordnance Survey map of Edinburgh, published in 1853, shows the "Old Gibbet Toll" as situated on the left-hand side of the Dalkeith Road, immediately opposite the "Newington Burial Ground," at the junction with the "Gibbet Loan," as the thoroughfare that now bears the innocent name of Park Road was then called. In point of distance, therefore, the Society's excursions were planned upon a modest scale. Whatever the fare, it was ample enough to engender a pleasing sense of self-satisfaction. The Chairman's annual address is always reproduced at length in the minutes, and this is the peroration of that delivered by Mr John Dick in 1783:—

"Finally, Gentlemen, we have crowned the honours and fame of our labour by the institution of this anniversary meeting, where the Members of this Society of all ranks and fortune may sit down to a social feast of literature and partake of the bounties of our native soil without luxury intemperance or inadmissible expense."

In 1784 the date of the anniversary meeting was changed, the Society having on 3rd July adopted a motion made by Mr John Barnatyne to the effect—

"that as there were so few Members present the Society should not hold their Anniversary till the 14<sup>th</sup> of August next being the first Saturday after the Races and that the Society should ever after keep their Anniversary upon the first Saturday of August and if that day should happen to be in the Race week, the Saturday thereafter."

The small attendance here referred to—it was a *sederunt* of only three in all—must be regarded as something of a portent. The speech of Mr George Hay, the chairman at the ensuing anniversary, strikes a



note that had not been audible in the "glad, confident morning" of a year before:—

"Having now, Gentlemen, made such remarks as I thought it my duty to do this day, I must express my anxious wish that the future and increasing zeal of every Member of this society to promote the laudable objects we have in view will enable us to become a more and more respectable as we gradually become a more numerous body."

The membership, it should be explained, ordinary and "correspondent" taken together, was at this time about twenty. The aspiration after respectability is perhaps not unconnected with a motion of which the speaker had given notice earlier in the day:—

"That every Ordinary and Honorary Member shall pay to the funds [of] the Society the sum of two shillings a year to be paid every quarter or three months and the first payment to be made on the first meeting of the Society in October."

Hitherto there had been no subscription at all. When the resolution came up for discussion, it was unanimously adopted. The financial provision thus made would seem to have been too generous, for on 11th June 1785—that is, before a full year's contributions had been levied—Mr Gilbert Sandy, one of the Vice-Presidents,

"moved that instead of the members making a quarterly payment to the funds of the Society they shall at the Anniversary meeting or the meeting immediately following pay whatever sum is requisite for the purposes of the Society or whatever shall be agreed upon, which was unanimously agreed to and the Secretary ordered to return to the Members the contributions any of them had made."

As the Society sat rent-free and published no transactions, and as the individual members paid each his share of the anniversary dinner, it is not at first sight clear why finance should have been a problem at all. A possible outlet for the money is, however, suggested by the following letter, addressed by Mr Francis Wemyss, a "correspondent" member, to the chairman of the meeting at which the resolution just quoted was introduced and carried:—

"The many curiosities I have seen when abroad and which my circumstances would not permit me to purchase induce me to make a proposal to you and the Gentlemen of this Society. That every correspondent Member should be bound by oath to make purchase of such curiosities as may be of real service to this most respectable Society, or such as his situation at the time enables him to procure making it a rule if such curiosity exceeds the sum of 5 shillings sterling that the said Member be reimbursed in the overplus of that sum from the funds of this Society on examination of the said curiosity he brings.

For I assure you Sir that many curiosities which were entirely out of my power to purchase would have been valuable acquisitions to this Society. At the same time I would have the Member restricted to a

certain sum which he must not exceed by any means unless from his own pocket.

I would wish if this proposal be seconded that it pass immediately as I expect to be called to London every Post."

The suggestion thus set forth was adopted with acclamation, and the limit of price fixed at "eight shillings sterling." A little later a further attempt to raise the wind was combined with an endeavour to improve the attendance. It was decided to impose a fine of sixpence upon all members who were absent without reasonable excuse. At this time the meetings were being held weekly in order to make up for the winter's inactivity. The Society had not met between 2nd October 1784 and 28th May 1785, "on account of the great distress in Mr Cummyng's family," Mr Cummyng being (as we shall see presently) the Secretary. But this unwonted outburst of energy was merely the flicker of the dying lamp. The Anniversary was duly celebrated in August. The record of that event closes with the words:—"Adjourn the meeting of this Society untill the                      day of September 1785." Before September came the Society seems to have dissolved—how and why we cannot tell. The minutes end abruptly there, and the rest of the book is blank.

Such is the story of the Minor Society of Scottish Antiquaries as revealed by its own records. Before leaving it, one is tempted to ask what justification there was for its existence. That depends to some extent upon who its members were. To find this out, we must have recourse to the methods of the higher criticism. In one instance, at least, the result is surprising. Under the date 3rd April 1784, we read:—

"There was presented by Mr Gilbert Sandy a Pair of steel spurs plated with silver which belonged to K. Charles II. and which he left together with his Cloaths after his defeat at Worcester by Oliver Cromwell anno 1651 in the house of Mr Nasmith a Colonel in his Army in Staffordshire, which were divided among his attendants of whom Mr Gilbert's Grandfather then a Major in the King's own regiment was one and to whose share the boots and spurs fell. The King escaped to France in the disguise of a soldier in Cromwell's party."

Now if Mr Gilbert Sandy's grandfather was old enough to be a major in 1651, Mr Gilbert himself must have been something of a patriarch when he joined the Minor Society more than a hundred and thirty years later, and he and his fellow-members can only have been a group of superannuated antiquaries. That, however, would be quite inconsistent with the general flavour of the proceedings, which smack strongly of youth. Yet it is not exactly a set of schoolboys with whose doings we have been dealing. They have seen too much of the world for that to be the case. Mr Francis Wemyss, it will be remembered, had been a good deal abroad, and Mr Gilbert Sandy presented curiosities which he had brought home from Norway and from Portugal, while on one

occasion a member (who desired to remain anonymous) asked the Society whether they would be at the expense of paying the postage of a letter which he would send home recounting the results of his observations in the Mediterranean. One may conjecture that they were lads let loose from school, but not yet sufficiently mature to aspire to the dignity of membership in the Society proper.

The identity of one or two of them can be more or less confidently established. Thus, Mr George Hay, the second Vice-President, and Mr James Hamilton were probably the sons of Mrs Hay of Mountblairry and Mrs Hamilton, jun., of Olivebank, both of whom figure in the list of donors. Again, it is safe to recognise Mr John Fell, who was a generous contributor of Chinese objects and Oriental articles of dress to the common stock, in the "Mr John Fell, Writer, Bombay," who was elected a corresponding member of the Major Society on 16th February 1796, more than a decade after the Minor Society had ceased to be. And there is no manner of doubt about the Secretary, Mr Thomas Cummyng. He was the son of Mr James Cummyng, clerk in the Lyon Office. Mr Cummyng, senior, was the first Secretary of our Society as well as Curator of its Museum in the Cowgate, where he and his family occupied rooms in the Society's premises. That explains the prolonged adjournment already alluded to, as well as the Secretary's omission to call a meeting in May 1784. "on account of the indisposition of his Father all last Month." When there was illness in the house, it was undesirable to have the young people coming about it unnecessarily.

Furthermore, I am inclined to find in this link between the two Societies a clue to the origin of the junior one. In his address to our Society on 6th August 1782, the Earl of Buchan said:—"I recommend it to you (in this case) to provide a small but adequate salary to your Secretary, who is quixotically zealous in your service; but who, like other men, must eat and drink, and maintain a family, which I hope sometime or other may breed new secretaries and new members for the Society of the Antiquaries of Scotland."<sup>1</sup> It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the formation of the Minor Society a very few months later was an attempt to live up to the hint here given. There is a final question, which must remain unanswered. How did the Minute-Book come to find a place among the manuscript treasures of the University of Oxford? The Register, it will be remembered, says that it is "not certainly a Gough book," and Mr Madan, Bodley's Librarian, to whose kindness I am much indebted, tells me that "the MS. is not in the printed Gough Catalogue of 1814." Nevertheless, he believes that it came to the Bodleian through Gough. And there we must leave the matter.

<sup>1</sup> *Arch. Scot.*, iii., App. i., pp. xi f.

## III.

## THE CAIRNS IN CROMAR, ABERDEENSHIRE.

BY SIR ALEXANDER OGSTON, ABERDEEN.

The district of Cromar is extremely rich in cairns. It seems not improbable that within its limited area are contained more of these structures than within any county in Scotland. In the Report on Sutherlandshire of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments, though doubt may perhaps be thrown upon what the Commissioners defined as cairns, it would appear that the total number of cairns in that large county is less than that in Cromar; and Lieut. Thomas ("Celtic Antiquities of Orkney," *Archæologia*, vol. xxxiv, p. 88) estimates that in that county "at least two thousand might still be numbered." But I have myself, or by the assistance of others, counted in Cromar 1947 cairns, and it is likely that many more must of necessity have been overlooked in the extensive tracts of broom and rank heather.

In Cromar there are three distinct varieties at least of cairns to be found, which for distinction I shall term *small*, *large*, and *giant* cairns.

The small cairns are mostly circular in shape, with diameters varying from 10 feet upwards, and are all bun-shaped, with a height of from 1 to 2 feet. It is not uncommon to find three, four, or five of them so placed as to be in a straight line with one another, suggesting that they were intentionally thus arranged, and reminding one of the "Reihengräber" in the burial-fields of the Bronze Age mentioned by Herr Theodor Benecke of Harburg in his description of "Vorgeschichtliche Friedhöfe" in the *Hamburger Nachrichten* of 5th January 1913.

Between the small and large varieties there are no intermediate forms, and the impression one receives is that they are quite distinct and had each a different import.

The cairns which we distinguish as large are also circular in shape, are about 4 or 5 feet in height and have a diameter of some 40 feet. They are generally flattened on the top, even when they have not been disturbed, so that this seems to have been their original design. While the small cairns, as will presently be mentioned, tend to be met with in assemblages, the large cairns are never grouped together, but have the peculiarity of being at least half a mile apart, though they sometimes stand on the outskirts of a collection of the small ones.

The localities where the large and small cairns occur are never on the extreme hill-tops, but on the shoulders of the foot-hills, less abundantly

on the lower grounds, and always where the rock is covered by a stratum of soil, as if any interment they contain necessitated some scooping out of the earth beneath. In this they resemble the cairnless cemeteries—"Flachengräber" or "Urnenfelder" of the Bronze or early Roman Age—of which Benecke writes that they are found "Auf höher belegenen Grundstücken . . . auf einem ihren Göttern geweihten Hügel auf dem sie ihre Opfer darbrachten."

The giant cairns form a separate class and have their special peculiarities. Their diameters are very large, from, say, 70 to 100 feet; the height is also greater, being from 10 to 12 feet; their form is that of a pointed cone, not truncated like the large cairns; and their circumference is circular, with the single exception of the Blue Cairn on the south of Craig Dhu on the Balnagowan range of hills. Those at Tillycairn, Knocksoul, and Drummy stand on stone platforms which extend beyond their bases.

There are numerous instances in Cromar in which the small cairns are planned in connection with prehistoric walls, but so far as has been observed there are none where the walls are directly connected with the large and giant cairns; although they may approach very close to them, they do not appear to form part of the same plan.

The giant cairns in Cromar are found close to the great entering roads along which dangers might have approached, and are all, with one exception, on commanding points whence they are visible from one another, which suggests at least one purpose which they may have served.

So far as my observation has gone, I believe that *Cemeteries of Cairns* are peculiar to the North of Scotland, and that the largest of these are in Cromar. When a map of Cromar, on which all these prehistoric objects have been laid down, is examined some interesting inferences may be drawn. There seems no reason to doubt that the small cairns are burial-places, and they are in a vast majority, while the large and giant cairns form only a minute proportion, and are dissociated from the former. That the custom of burying the dead in specified localities which exists among us at the present day, existed also among the cairn-builders, is distinctly observable. Apart from the large and giant cairns, it is rather a rare thing to find an isolated cairn. They are in groups, and great areas exist upon which there are no cairns at all, even where the operations of the agriculturist or road-mender are not responsible for their absence. The interment of the dead was not done in haphazard fashion, but was carried out in special situations.

• THE CROMAR CEMETERIES.

The aggregation of cairns into groups reaches in Britain its climax in the great cemeteries on the Balnagowan and Craiglich Hills. So far as I know there is nothing elsewhere that can for a moment be compared with them for size, and they strike with amazement the very few visitors who penetrate to the remote localities where they lie and who possess sufficient discernment to understand and appreciate them.

There are few data obtainable regarding the number of cairns that exist in particular districts, for almost no one has taken the trouble to observe their distribution and record their numbers. Even the large-scale maps of the Ordnance Survey do not afford accurate information on these points. Hence comparisons as to the numbers of cairns in different parts of the country can be only approximately accurate. But my wanderings in many places where prehistoric remains are to be found lead me to think that groups of cairns approaching in number to a hundred are rare, and the literature of archaeology tells the same tale. In the map of Stonehenge given by Ferguson at p. 102 of his work on *Rude Stone Monuments*, there are only 97 barrows to be counted in that district; and Lord Avebury (*Prehistoric Times*, p. 147) gives the number as "no less than 270." In the 25-inch Westmorland Ordnance Survey of the Crosby-Ravensworth district, and in the similar maps of the valley of the White Esk in which Castle O'er lies, few cairns or tumuli can be made out, while the same is true of Dartmoor, Shap, Greaves Ash, Raedykes, the Barmekin, the Caterthuns, the Ord of Lairg, and other prehistoric sites which I have explored. Dalhalvaig in Sutherland is the largest collection of cairns I have met with outside Cromar, and it numbers fewer than 100. The Royal Commissioners on the Ancient and Prehistoric Monuments in Scotland make a hardly intelligible distinction between "cairns" and "mounds," and do not in their report on Sutherland mention the number of mounds, but it is some evidence of the rarity of cemeteries to find that they give (p. xlii) the total number of cairns in that county as 117. The largest collection of "Hünen-gräber" mentioned by Benecke is 25.

Compared with these, the Balnagowan Cemetery contains at least 903 cairns, and that on Craiglich Hill 967, entitling them to the claim we make for them of being the largest prehistoric cemeteries in Great Britain.

As an evidence of the sanctity which the prehistoric inhabitants of Cromar attached to their cairns, it is interesting to observe that, not

only in the case of the isolated or small groups of cairns, some of which are near the sites of their dwellings, but also in the great cemeteries such as those of Craiglich and Balnagowan, crowded as the latter are, and difficult as it must have been to collect a sufficient number of stones for forming the later cairns, none of the earliest of those that were placed there is ever found despoiled of its heap, or in any way interfered with. Wherever desecration has occurred, it has been the work of later times, by those who sought to rifle the cairn of its supposed contents or to procure some of the stones for modern purposes.

In the cemeteries and groups of cairns in Cromar, one frequently meets with those curious accompaniments called by some "Ghost Walls." In the Craiglich cemetery such a wall winds about among the cairns at the southern end; in the Balnagowan cemetery, near to St Machar's Cross, there are several others, some of which might perhaps be called "long cairns," but most are evidently walls; and they exist in other places, in situations and directions which suggest their connection with some kind of superstition.

In Cromar it is exceptional to meet with cairns whose base is not circular; some indeed are found which are *long* or *oval*, one or two that are *comma-shaped*, and a small number are so long in proportion to their breadth that they might well be termed *linear*; but I think it may be asserted with confidence that all really belong to the race who made the round cairns.

There is one long cairn which is one of the most remarkable structures in Cromar: possibly it is unique anywhere; it is so singular that it is a wonder it has not before been described, but so far as I am aware this has not been the case. Its situation is in a thickly planted part of the Balnagowan Wood, near its western side, and when viewed from one end has the appearance of a straight linear cairn 320 feet in length, made of the usual rounded stones of portable size, and has the common height of about 3 feet. When it came to be worked out on a survey, however, it was seen to consist of a series of segments, five in number, but all forming portions of a single plan. Its general direction was  $21^{\circ} 45'$  west of the true north, assuming the magnetic variation for this district to be  $18^{\circ} 45'$ . If this bearing were prolonged northwards, it would appear to end in or pass a few yards to the east of the Blue Cairn, but the trees prevent an accurate estimate being formed of this, or of its relation to the visible horizon in either the north or south direction. This complicated cairn commences at its southern end in a horseshoe-shaped cairn 20 feet long and 7 broad. A gap of  $16\frac{1}{2}$  feet follows, and we then arrive at the central or main portion, 105 feet long with an average

breadth of 9 feet, with projections and cup-like hollows: and after another gap of 16 feet, it continues as a bottle-shaped cairn 65 feet long, 15 feet broad at its southern end, and lessening to 8, 7, and 6 feet at the bottle neck. Finally, after a third gap of 17 feet, its termination on the north is a circular cairn with a diameter of only 6 feet. The plan of the whole shows a general resemblance to the outlines of the Milky Way at the section occupied by the constellations of Cassiopeia and Cygnus.

Though the late Rev. Dr. Michie of Dinnet and others have examined a few of the Cromar cairns, and some objects of interest have been found in them, such as fragments of gold, and stone axe-heads, yet hitherto no proper exploration on scientific lines has been made of any of them. Stone cists and human remains have been found in some, but no examination of the ground beneath has been made, no "pit-holes" underneath discovered, nor any investigation undertaken as to the manner in which they were planned or founded.

The cemeteries and collections of cairns in Cromar appear to have had no connection with the underground dwellers who at one time existed in the same district. The earth-houses have no relation, in point of vicinity or in any other respect, to the localities where the cairns are to be found. It seems more probable that the earth-dwellers were what are termed "Urnenfeld" buriers.



## IV.

## SOME FURTHER EARLY ORKNEY ARMORIALS.

BY J. STORER CLOUSTON. F.S.A.Scot.

## II.

The armorials noticed in this second paper are practically all in stone. Only one other early seal has so far been found: while the slabs themselves are, as a rule, of rather later date than those covered by the previous paper. They almost all, however, come from the sixteenth or early seventeenth century, and they include a number which for many years past had been hidden beneath the raised floor of the choir of St Magnus Cathedral and have only recently come to light. Again I have to express my obligations to Mr G. M. Watson and the Kirkwall Town Council for giving me every facility for examining them and taking rubbings. And, as before, I was very fortunate in having the counsel and assistance of Archdeacon Craven. My thanks are also due to Mr A. O. Curle, Mr F. J. Grant, and Professor Hannay for most kindly answering various inquiries.

The first armorial to be noticed is the Cragy coat on the ancient font now in Stromness Episcopal Church (fig. 1). I referred to it in my last paper, but had not at that time taken a rubbing. The only thing to add concerning it is that the two markings in the centre line (above and below the fess) are distinctly, though very slightly, raised, and might possibly have been ermine spots originally, which were chiselled off because there was no space to make anything of them. (It may be remembered that the field really ought to be ermine.) The date is quite likely to be before rather than after 1500.

What I am inclined to think is probably the oldest slab in the present collection is a badly worn tombstone, evidently broken, which was found beneath the floor of the Birsay Parish Kirk,<sup>1</sup> and is now built into the wall of the vestibule (fig. 2). At the foot (which would be about the middle of the slab originally) is a shield with impaled arms:—dexter, a stag's head erased; sinister, a lion rampant. The dexter charge is actually so split up by fissures in the stone that at first sight it is difficult to make anything of it, and in the rubbing one or two of these have been filled in to make it clearer. The general outline and the horns, however, are as they came out when the rubbing was first taken. Over the dexter coat is the initial R of the surname, but

<sup>1</sup> "Near the west corner," *Birsay Church History*, p. 334.

the initial of the Christian name has gone completely. Over the sinister coat are the initials E.G. (or possibly E.C.). Higher up are the remains of an inscription, of which the last word seems to be "... ITLAND."

To give this slab even an approximate date is a matter of considerable difficulty. Its superficial appearance of extreme antiquity is undoubtedly due largely to the fact that it was a very bad piece of stone and the surface has split into innumerable fissures. The straight-sided shield is a much safer guide. I know of only one instance of this type of shield appearing on a slab in Orkney in the sixteenth century, and



Fig. 2. Coat on slab in Birsay Parish Kirk.



Fig. 1. Cragy Coat. Stromness Episcopal Church.



Fig. 3. Coat on slab in St Magnus Cathedral.

that was the tombstone of Sir Nicol Halro, illustrated in the previous paper, of date about 1540-50 (though even in that case the top has ceased to be straight); and a search through the various illustrations in these *Proceedings*—particularly in Mr Rae Macdonald's two papers<sup>1</sup>—seems to show that this applies to Scotland generally, or at any rate to the northern parts. The type was common in the fifteenth century, and became common again in the seventeenth, and on these grounds one would logically date the slab either in the fifteenth or very early sixteenth century, or in the seventeenth.<sup>2</sup>

At first sight the presence of the inscription, cut in compact, not very ancient looking, incised capitals, suggests the seventeenth de-

<sup>1</sup> *Notes on the Heraldry of Elgin and its Neighbourhood* (vol. xxxiv.), and *The Heraldry in some of the Old Churchyards between Tain and Inverness* (vol. xxxvi.).

<sup>2</sup> It must be understood that I refer to armorials in stone only. Straight-sided shields appear on seals all through the sixteenth century.

cisively. But the relative positions of the shield in the middle of the slab and the inscription above it are, if not absolutely unique, at least so extremely unusual as to rouse a strong suspicion that the inscription was added later; and this suspicion is deepened by the marked difference between the initials and the lettering of the inscription. Also, the records of Birsay are pretty ample during the seventeenth century, and in that period nobody lived or died in the parish with those initials and of such a position as to have been commemorated by an armorial tombstone like this. On this reasoning, then, the slab should be dated either in the fifteenth century or the early part of the sixteenth; and that, I think, is all it is safe to say.

In early days by far the greater part of Birsay consisted of bishopric lands, and owing to the small amount of private property, there are scarcely any records before the year 1600. The bishopric lands were let to tacksmen whose names have been lost with the bishopric rentals, and one can safely presume that the bearer of the dexter coat was one of the larger of these. That his name was Reid seems an almost equally safe presumption. No other Orkney family are on record beginning with R and having a stag's head erased for arms, and from an early date Reids were people of good position in the Islands, and, as will appear presently, they were certainly an armorial family. In 1509 an Andrew Reid appears as "roithman" among the "worthiest and best in the land," and as he is on no other record, the presumption is that he lived in some more or less out of the way district. He, or perhaps a predecessor, might possibly have been the R in question.

It may be added that if the slab can be dated later, say in the latter half of the sixteenth century, the chances of finding a Reid in Birsay would be increased, for Bishop Reid (1541-58) had the leasing of the bishopric estates in his hands during his episcopate.

With regard to the sinister coat, one can only say that Grays are found connected with Birsay from at least as early as 1574, and that there is no other known Orkney family of that period beginning either with G or C and having a lion rampant for arms.

Apart from this stone, all the slabs of early date to be noticed in this paper come from St Magnus Cathedral. The oldest of them seems in all probability to be the tombstone of "V.P." in the choir of St Magnus (fig. 3). Though it is in very good preservation, there is no sign of date or further inscription, and this fact alone argues a date before the middle of the sixteenth century, for the few other Orkney slabs which either have no lettering at all or initials only, all certainly belong to an earlier period than this; while all inscribed stones so far discovered can be dated later than 1540. On the other hand, the shape of the shield,

with its exaggerated points, makes it unlikely to be earlier than the second or third decade of that century. A date round about 1520-40 would therefore seem to be distinctly indicated.

Whether the contents of the shield are wholly, or even partially, heraldic remains to be considered. In the meantime they may be described as a spear, point upwards, between two keys, all paleways, the keys attached to the head of the spear; in base a dragon and two (dice?), one in either flank. The rim of the shield, the charges, and the initials are cut in very bold, clean relief, and it bears altogether the stamp of a stone-cutter who handled his tools confidently and with a certain flourish. And this is a fact that must not be overlooked in trying to solve the enigma of V.P.'s identity.

Assuming him to have appeared on written record, only two men bearing these initials in the first half of the sixteenth century seem to be possibilities. One was a chaplain, Sir William Perquer or Parquer, twice mentioned as witness (1534 and 1536). The other was "William Thome Peterson," included as one of a court of representative landowners in 1522, and who in all probability can be identified with William of Ness, son of Thomas of Ness and grandson of Peter of Ness, on record in 1508.<sup>1</sup>

A solution on what seems to me personally very probable lines was first suggested by Dr Craven, namely, that the keys stand for Peter (*i.e.* Peterson), and that the other objects in the shield symbolise the key of Heaven and the key of Hell. They would thus be the spear and dice of the passion instruments, with the dragon signifying the devil. And the style and spirit in which the thing is cut are very consistent with a symbolical solution.

If this hypothesis be correct, V.P. was then in all probability the above-mentioned William Peterson or William of Ness, the representative of an old native family not of large estate but of good position. An heiress of this family had already brought half the property into the Tulloch family, and Thomas Tulloch "of Ness" was one of the leading people of that period, appending his seal to one or two documents, including a doom of the Lawthing in 1516. The actual surname of Ness vanished by the middle of the sixteenth century and seems to have been replaced by Peterson or Petrie.

On the other hand, a chevron between three keys paleways are the arms of several English families of Parker, and this suggests Sir William Parquer as a possible candidate. The odds, however, are against an Englishman being found in the Orkney church, and then too this shield is very different from the actual arms of Parker, and the spear, dice, and dragon are left unexplained. \*One might possibly conceive of the passion

<sup>1</sup> See *Records of the Earldom of Orkney*, p. 95 n.

instruments being added to the arms of an ecclesiastic, but why bring in the devil?

There is, of course, the chance that the person commemorated was not on record at all, and may not be either of these. There are, however, no other families connected with Orkney who bore such arms, or to whom such a device would be appropriate, and on the whole the well-known allusion of keys to Peter and the known existence at that time of this William Peterson seem to me to give the likeliest clue.

The broken slab shown in fig. 4 was a curiously fortunate discovery. Below the shield are the initials E.S. and the hilt of a two-handed sword, and of the marginal inscription there is left :—

. . . . LYIS · ANE · HONORABIL · MAN · EDVARD . . . . .

Comparing the arms on the shield with those on the partially defaced seal of Edward Sinclair of Strome, illustrated in the previous paper

(fig. 14), in the first place it is at once evident who E.S. was, and in the second place we can now reconstruct the arms on the seal. In fact, the irregular position of the engrailed cross in the second quarter (caused probably by reversal in cutting) clearly shows that the arms on the slab were copied from those on the seal. The reading of them given in the first paper can now be corrected as follows:—quarterly; 1st, a star in sinister chief and an increscent in dexter base; 2nd, a cross engrailed; 3rd, a thistle; 4th, a buckle.

Since the quarters were reversed in error, possibly the charges in the first quarter may have been too, and in this case they might be read as:—a star and a crescent in bend (for on a bend?). This distinctly suggests Scott, and Edward Sinclair of Strome certainly had somewhat distant Scott ancestry. There is

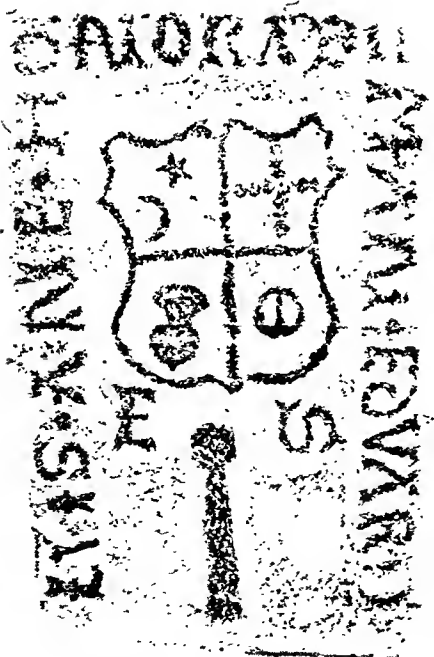


Fig. 4. Coat of Edward Sinclair of Strome.

no obvious origin for the 3rd and 4th quarters.

The probable date of this slab will appear presently.

The slab (also broken) shown in fig. 5 has a shield divided per fess, and the lower part per pale. The upper compartment has a cross engrailed; in dexter base is a star between two crosses pattée fitchée, the dexter cross being bendways; and in sinister base are two guttées in fess. On either side are the initials I.S., and of the marginal inscription there remains:—

HIC · JACET · HONORABILIS · VIR · LAVRENTIVS . . . . .  
 ARII · ANNODNI · 1 · 5 · 6 · 4

The Christian name and the engrailed cross leave no doubt that this was the tombstone of Lawrence Sinclair of Sands, burgess of Kirkwall, and this is confirmed by the initials of his wife I.S. (Janet Strang). Along with Edward Sinclair of Strome, Lawrence was one of the warriors respite in 1539 for their work at the Battle of Summerdale, and not only does the date of his death, 1564, coincide with Edward's disappearance from record, but the lettering in the two slabs (particularly the characteristic X) shows that they were the work of the same hand. Practically the same date can therefore safely be assigned to Edward Sinclair's slab. The two were found close together in the choir of St Magnus.

Lawrence Sinclair belonged to one of the chief Shetland families of the name (the Sinclairs of Houss), whose pedigree may be found in Mr Grant's *Shetland Families*. Why he settled in Orkney is not known, but probably it had something to do with his acquisition of Sands. There is only one place of that name in either archipelago, a large township in Deerness in the east mainland of Orkney. It became the chief estate of the Paplays after Paplay passed out of their hands, and the two guttées seem distinctly to indicate that Lawrence inherited a share of Sands through a Paplay ancestress.

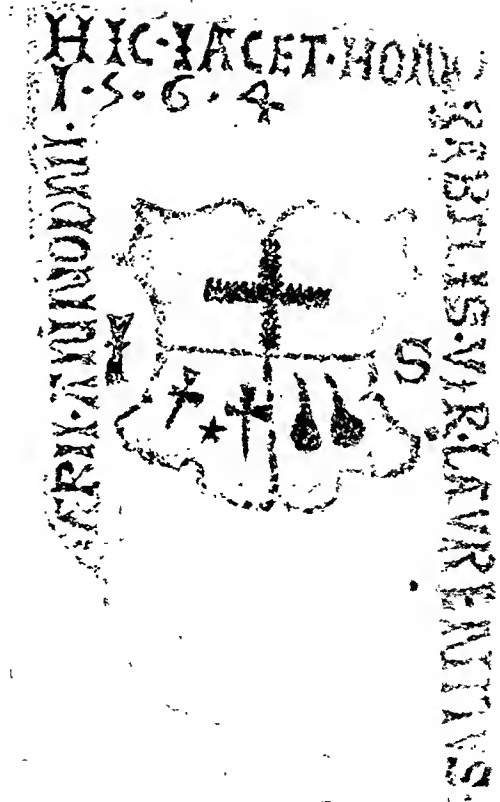


Fig. 5. Coat of Lawrence Sinclair of Sands.

The remaining compartment bears a striking resemblance to the first and fourth quarters in the seal of Patrick Cheyne of Essilmont, appended 1598:—three crosses pattée fitchée (the first and second bendways).<sup>1</sup> This Patrick Cheyne obtained a charter of the Archdeaconry lands in Shetland in 1587, and the family subsequently settled in the islands. No connection with Shetland is known previously, yet it is difficult to think that such a very singular resemblance can be a mere coincidence.

The handsomest slab found in the choir is the tombstone of Lord Adam Stewart (fig. 6). The arms are:—a lion rampant within a tressure flory and counterflory, the tressure being coincident with the rim of the shield; and whatever zoological criticism may be made on the animal, there is no denying his spirited attitude, or the artistic skill with which he is made to fill the field. At the top and sides of the shield are the letters "LAS" (Lord Adam Stewart), and round the margin of the slab runs the following inscription in Gothic lettering:—

adamus · steuardus · filius · illustrisimi · principis · jacobi · quinti ·  
scotorum · regis · qui · obit · vicesimo · die · junii · anno · domini ◊ m ◊  
v ◊ lxxv ◊

An interesting and unusual feature of the slab is a second inscription along one edge. This reads:—

domina · de · halero · filia · ejusdem · fieri · fecit · hoc · sepulchrum ·  
et . . . . . (apparently two more words at the end).

Lord Adam Stewart himself is thus shown to have been a natural son of King James V. He was therefore brother of Lord Robert Stewart, at that time feuar and afterwards Earl of Orkney. His daughter, the Lady of Halero, was clearly Barbara Stewart, brother's daughter of Earl Robert, whose marriage contract with Henry Halero of that ilk was dated in 1580. Sometime after her marriage she evidently caused this slab to be laid in her father's memory.

One of the largest slabs found in the choir is that once covering the bones of James Menteith of Saltecoats and Patrick Menteith of the Fair Isle. Unfortunately it is too worn for reproduction, but the coat of arms can just be seen to include a bend, and a buckle in sinister chief. The bend would of course be chequy, and from the position of the buckle one can pretty safely conclude that there were originally six, three on either side of the bend; so that, like the stone on the house of Howan in Egilsay, illustrated in *Orkney Armorial*s, it was intended to represent the quartered arms of Menteith and Stirling. Below the shield is this inscription in incised capitals:—

JACOBVS · DE · SALTCOTS · ET · PATRICIVS · DE · FAIRILI ·  
MONTETHS · IA · 1574 · PA · 1597.

<sup>1</sup> *Scottish Armorial Seals*, No. 417.

Round the margin runs a Latin inscription, but only portions of a few words are legible here and there.

James Menteith of Saltcoats appears very seldom in Orkney records, but Patrick was one of Earl Robert Stewart's sheriff deputies and constantly in evidence. The above date on the slab corrects the date of his death (1614) as quoted in *Orkney Armorial*s from a pedigree in the Lyon office. Also, the James of Saltcoats, referred to in the same place as nephew of Patrick, must obviously have been a successor of the James recorded on this slab.

The discovery of this stone has one very curious sequel. In Hossack's *Kirkwall in the Orkneys* (p. 50), the author, after mentioning that many



Fig. 6. Coat of Lord Adam Stewart.



Fig. 7. Coat of William Kincaid.



Fig. 8. Coat of Thomas Reid.

ancient monuments were lost to view owing to the raising of the choir floor, goes on to say, "Perhaps one of the most interesting of these is on the east side of the north-east pillar of the choir. It is inscribed, 'Here lyes Captain Patricio of the Spanish Armada, who was wrecked on the Fair Isle. 1588.'" And he then proceeds to quote from Tudor certain particulars concerning Captain Patricio Antolinez who commanded 243 soldiers on board the *El Gran*, wrecked on the Fair Isle.

It is somewhat singular that Dryden, who saw the slabs before the floor was raised and gave a general description of them, made no mention of this interesting stone. And it is still more singular that this stone was certainly not in the choir when the floor was recently removed. In fact, no slab at all was found beside the north-east pillar. But close to the south-east pillar lay this Menteith stone, in a very worn state, but with the words "Patricius" and "Fairili"



tolerably legible; and the only possible explanation of Hossack's statement seems to be that some ancient inhabitant with more imagination than experience of deciphering inscriptions, fastened upon "Patricius" and "Fairili," presumed that "Jacobus de Saltcots" should naturally be read "Here lyes, etc.," arranged one of the dates to fit the Armada year, and eventually communicated this interesting note of the buried monument to the learned historian of Kirkwall.

If, however, Mr Hossack was somewhat incorrectly instructed in this matter, he gives all the particulars necessary for identifying the next slab (fig. 7), which likewise was found in the choir. This has a shield with arms:—a fess ermine between three stars in chief and a castle triple-towered in base—the arms of Kincaid. Above it is a crowned hammer, badge of the blacksmith's trade, and below it the initials V.K. in incised capitals, joined by a twisted device. There is no marginal description, but near the foot of the slab are the words "memento mori" in raised Gothic letters within a sunk panel.

The V.K. in question, smith to trade, is easily recognised as William Kincaid, who, along with his brother John, came from Abbotslaugh near Falkirk to take service with the Stewart earls as skilled blacksmiths. William owned a house in Kirkwall and died in 1594.<sup>1</sup>

The slab illustrated in fig. 8 was also found in the choir. The arms on the shield are a stag's head erased, with the initials V.R. above and T.R. below. Below that again is the date "4 · MAII · 1603," and beneath that a rudely incised skull and bone. Round the margin is an inscription in incised capitals. So far as I can read it, it runs:—

HIC · TEGITVR · TOMAS · REID · CVI · FLOS · IVVENTVTIS ·  
SPERM · PRO · · · · M · FERENS · MORTE · · · · ·

Beyond the fact thus recorded, that the slab was laid over Thomas Reid, cut off in the flower of his youth, there is no other record either of him or of V.R. It may be mentioned, however, that a Wat Reid appears as witness at Kirkwall in 1542, and may possibly have been the V.R. in question.

The shield shown in fig. 9 occurs on a broken fragment of stone (no doubt part of a slab), presumably once in the nave of St Magnus, and, like the V.P. shield, it presents an interesting little conundrum. The arms are a chevron between two plain crosses in chief and an object which looks more like a leather-worker's knife than anything else I can think of. At the same time, it is certainly not quite the usual pattern, and also there seems to have been some sort of a pro-

<sup>1</sup> See *Kirkwall in the Orkneys*, p. 222, where these and other particulars are given.

jection on the dexter side of the upright or handle (opposite the well-marked projection on the sinister side), too faint to come out in the rubbing and too vague to enable one to judge of its nature. On the chevron is incised a lozenge with a small cross within it, but this scarcely looks like a heraldic charge. Possibly those more learned in such matters may recognise it as some species of symbol. The top of what seems to be either the letter I or the figure 1 can be seen below on the dexter side. The shape of the shield makes the end of the sixteenth century or the early years of the seventeenth a very probable date: and those are all the clues apparent in the stone itself.

There is, however, a small seal on a letter dated from Essenquoy (in St Andrews Parish), 25th November 1667, which may possibly throw some light on the matter. The letter was written by Thomas Baikie, younger of Tankerness, then living at Essenquoy, the initials T.B.

are on the seal, and the arms are:—on a chevron between three plain crosses (though one at least rather suggests a cross pattée), a bird's head—either eagle or parrot. The resemblance to the arms on the stone is at least sufficient to suggest a connection between them: especially looking to the fact that no arms in the least like either of them are known elsewhere in Orkney.

These arms used by Thomas Baikie have a marked resemblance to those of Barclay (a chevron between three crosses pattée) and a connection is suggested between this coincidence and a hitherto very puzzling circumstance: the fact, namely, that a certain Marable Baikie, wife of Steven Paplay, found round about 1600, is twice, at least, referred to as Marable *Barclay*. Recalling the incident of the Banks and Marjoribanks arms referred to in the last paper, it certainly looks as though the Baikies had at one time adopted the Barclay arms owing to the similarity in sound between the names, and afterwards altered them into those recorded in the Lyon Register.<sup>1</sup>

As this seal is the first recorded instance of Baikie arms, and as Thomas Baikie, father of James, first of Tankerness, and grandfather of Thomas, younger, was a leading citizen of Kirkwall and died in 1611, a



Fig. 9. Slab with undetermined arms.

<sup>1</sup> Argent, on a chevron gules between three flames of fire proper, a lion rampant accompanied by two estoiles of the field (registered 1686). These seem very possibly canting arms, the three flames being intended for "bekins" (beacons). The lion and estoiles seem evidently borrowed from the arms of Moncrieffe. Elizabeth Moncrieffe was wife of Arthur Baikie, second of Tankerness.

date which would suit the stone very well, the resemblance between the two shields is distinctly suggestive.

The slab shown in fig. 10 (found in the nave of St Magnus) is interesting as showing an example of trade implements treated heraldically.



Fig. 10. Slab, probably of William and Robert Couper.

Though this was common enough elsewhere, this slab is almost, if not quite, the only Orkney instance in which the pseudo charges consist solely of such implements. The shield is parted per pale, with an axe in the dexter half and a hammer in the sinister. Above it are the initials R.C., and below it W.C. Then comes the date 1612, and lower down a later inscription: "I.C. MARCH 16 ANNO 1705. (M)EMNT0 MORI"; and then a death's head.

The family commemorated is in all probability that of Couper. A William Couper, carpenter, is mentioned as a householder of Kirkwall in 1561, and a witness in 1573; and a Robert Couper wadset his house in Kirkwall in 1590. These seem evidently the W.C. and the R.C. of the slab, and I.C. was no doubt a descendant.

Of the same date as the last is another slab in the nave (of which I did not take a rubbing). It has a shield of arms:—a

chevron between three water bougets. The sides have been trimmed off, evidently to make it fit a space in the floor, and some letters of the inscription are missing. This reads:—

HEIR · LYIS · AN(E) · (G)ODLIE · AND ·  
VERTOVS · IS(O)BEL · CALCRI(T?).  
(S)POVS · TO · VILLIAM · BANNA(N)T-  
YNE · OF · GARSAY · 1612.

William Bannantyne is very frequently on record in the latter part of the sixteenth century. Among other lands, he got a feu charter of the island of Gairsay. I can find no other record of his wife. The lettering is so fresh looking as to suggest that it has been rechiselled, and possibly the curious name Calcri(t?) is merely the result of this. Could it have been Gilchrist?

This exhausts the earlier slabs so far discovered, but there are three of a later date, hitherto unnoticed, which may be referred to briefly.

In the floor of the Birsay Parish Church is a stone with an illegible

inscription and a very rude coat of impaled arms.<sup>1</sup> The date 1645 and the letters N N are at the foot, and as these initials at once suggest the family of Nisbet of Swannay in Birsay parish, whose armorial seal I have found on a later seventeenth century letter, it is probable that three objects like socks with the feet uppermost, in the dexter coat, are intended for boars' heads, and certain ambiguous lines between them for a chevron. The sinister half of the shield is blank.

In the nave of St Magnus was a slab with a shield of arms:—a (garb?) between three bundles of as many holly leaves each. In chief and flanks are the letters C.R.I. (Captain Robert Irving). Over it is a helmet with mantling but no crest. An inscription in raised capitals relates that the deceased married Barbara Williamson on the 10th of June 1654 and left (Marion?), Margaret, and Mary Irvings, their children.

From the Orkney Commissariat records one learns that Captain Robert Irving died in February 1679, and that his testament dative was given up by his widow Barbara Williamsons. He is frequently mentioned in seventeenth-century records, but I have not been able to trace a relationship to any of the Orkney families of the name.

In the old kirkyard at Osmundwall in Walls is a tombstone with an impaled coat of arms:—dexter, three boars' heads erased, with one star visible in sinister base; sinister, a chevron (uncharged) between three flames of fire. Of the inscription one can read:—

..... THE CORPS OF KATHERINE  
BAIKIE LAWVLL SPOVS TO WILLIAM  
CRVCKSHANK. SHE LIVED A WIDOW  
(20?) YEARS & DIED THE 6<sup>th</sup> DAY  
OF MARCH ..... AGED 71.

This was do doubt one of the Cruikshanks who, in the eighteenth century, owned property in Hoy, in the same island. A date about the middle of that century would suit the general style of the slab.

The single seal in the present collection is that of Master William Mudie of Breckness, appended along with the chapter seal of Orkney to a charter of 1589.<sup>2</sup> It has a shield with arms:—a chevron between three pheons points upwards, with what has presumably been a hunting-horn stringed in chief. This last charge, however, is now quite flattened out. No ermine spots can be seen on the chevron. Above the shield to the dexter is the initial W, but the M has disappeared. The legend is quite obliterated.

At the end of my last paper I ventured to suggest a few conclusions

<sup>1</sup> It was found under the floor near the pulpit (*Birsay Church History*, p. 334).

<sup>2</sup> Hedde of Cletts charters.

regarding the use of arms by the native families of Orkney, that seemed to emerge from the collation of such evidence as was available. A little more evidence can be added now by considering a few cases where apparently arms were not borne at an early date.

One of the most instructive of these is illustrated by a certain slab found in the nave of St Magnus. At the top are the initials A.Y. <math>\times</math> G.Y. Then comes a shield, not charged with arms, but having instead the initials E.Y. in chief and the date 1663 in base. Below that is the date 1652, and then a scroll ornament, a skull, and cross bones. The lines are incised throughout.

The Orkney families beginning with Y are very few. The people are not Youngs, and no Yorstons or Yules are found in or near Kirkwall at that date and with those initials. But there was a group of Yenstays exactly fitting them. In 1625 Elene Yenstay granted two charters of sale of her lands, in one case as only daughter and heir of her father the deceased Gilbert Yenstay, in the other as nearest heir of her father's brother, the deceased Andrew Yenstay. These are evidently the E.Y., G.Y., and A.Y. of the slab, and it may be assumed with considerable confidence that the second date 1652 is a mistake for 1625, the year in which Elene sold the lands; the sale probably following immediately upon the death of her father—and possibly of her uncle also.

While the mere absence of arms is, of course, no evidence that a family did not bear them, yet when a shield is introduced and then occupied only by initials and date, it seems most unlikely that arms existed; so that one can pretty safely put down the Yenstays as non-armorial. Yet, though their property was not large, they were Yenstays of Yenstay and a markedly representative landed family from the beginning of the sixteenth century. Both John and Ola Yenstay are found as roithmen in 1516, and Andrew was frequently on head court assizes from 1558 to 1580; and they were also twice intermarried with their neighbours the important family of Irving of Sabay. One would certainly expect a family of such undoubted landed gentility to have borne arms in Scotland.

Another case is that of the Richans, who are found from at least as early as 1492 as portioners of Hobbister, owning an estate of the smaller type much like the Yenstays, and being represented by William Richan on two head court assizes in 1564 and 1573. In the seventeenth century Robert Richan of this family became a man of wealth, acquired the estate of Linklater and other lands, and married Isobel Bellenden, daughter of Bellenden of Stenness. Their tombstone in St Magnus is described and illustrated in *Orkney Armorial*s and shows a coat of arms:—quarterly; 1st, a stag's head erased; 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, a kind of

double cross crosslet (as it stands, it is no heraldic figure at all, but is evidently intended for a cross crosslet).

At first sight we have here the Richan arms, but a little consideration brings out the surprising fact that these are merely the four charges in the Bellenden arms rearranged. (The Bellendens bore a stag's head erased between three cross crosslets fitchée.) There is no other record of any Richan arms, though they remained one of the chief land-owning families in the islands well into the nineteenth century, and under all the circumstances it is quite impossible to believe that the coat on the slab is anything more than a variation of the arms of Isobel Bellenden. The mere fact that her arms are not present too (as was customary at that time on Orkney tombstones) would go far to confirm this, were confirmation needed.

A third instructive case is that of Fea, a family who obtained a feu charter of the estate of Clestrain in Stronsay in 1592, and from that time on were one of the leading landed families: while, if—as seems highly probable—they were originally the Paulsons,<sup>1</sup> they were in 1500 related to the house of Sinclair and held extensive tacks of earldom lands in Sanday. Assuredly, one would say, this family must have been armigers, and yet the evidence seems to negative this assumption pretty decisively.

A considerable number of seventeenth-century letters from various members of the Fea family are extant, all with non-armorial seals. Then in the early part of the eighteenth century three separate instances of arms purporting to be the Feas are on record, one being a painting (now in the possession of Mrs Bailey, Kirkwall) showing two shields, of which the dexter is Baikie.<sup>2</sup> The sinister has the supposititious Fea arms:—azure, three stars in fess argent between as many covered cups or. Below is the inscription:—"The Bakies and Feaes arms," but beneath "Feaes" can be distinctly read the word "Shawes," which was therefore the original inscription. The arms actually are those of Shaw of Sornbeg, except that there all the charges are argent: while in the ordinary Shaw arms the cups are or, as above, only there are no stars.

In view of the identity of such comparatively uncommon charges, and practical identity of tinctures; in view, too, of the actual name

<sup>1</sup> See *Records of the Earldom of Orkney*, p. 206.

<sup>2</sup> *The Real Captain Cleveland*, p. 228. The other two instances referred to there are a tombstone in Shetland dated 1758, and the seal of William Fea of Milnfield. He is mentioned as flourishing in 1725. Regarding the painting, it is stated that it represents the arms of the Rev. Thomas Baikie and Elizabeth Fea, who were married 1697. I can find no reference to any marriage of Baikies and Shaws, or any mention of Shaws in Orkney. There is nothing on the painting, or on the back of it, to show a connection with any particular people.

Shaw originally in the painting, and of the earlier non-armorial Fea seals, it seems pretty evident that the Feas were a non-armorial family till—for whatever reason—they adopted the Shaw arms.

Taking all these cases, together with those included in the previous paper, my own impression is strengthened that arms-bearing in Orkney was on something like the same basis as in Norway; an arbitrary system under which some landowners were "af vaaben" and others were not: the privilege being originally associated with a certain position in the Kings or Earl's "hird," and always having remained the subject of special grant or of some kind of sanction.

In Scotland the terms "gentleman" and "freeholder" are used synonymously in old statutes, and each member of this class seems to have been expected, as a matter of obligation as much as of privilege, to have the "seale of his armes" ready for use when required. At least, this seems to be the only possible reading of the Act of Parliament, 6th March 1429 (vol. ii. 17).<sup>1</sup> But what were styled in sixteenth-century Scottish documents, the "gentlemen uthellers" of Orkney were evidently differently situated. "Gentlemen" and "armiger" were not synonymous terms in the isles, and the explanation would seem to lie in a study of the Continental custom, particularly of the custom in Norway.

So far as it goes, the evidence indicates, in the first place, that the number of native arms-bearing families in the islands was very limited; and, in the second place, that it is impossible to presume that any given family was or was not among this number until evidence is adduced. Without evidence either way, it would always seem to be long odds "on the field."

Referring for a moment, in conclusion, to my previous paper, I should like to note an interesting corroboration of my reading of the legend on the seal of William Thorgilsson, Lawman of Orkney (fig. 12). The last word "quondam" seemed almost too unusual to be correct (though I could read it as nothing else), but lately on going through the early

<sup>1</sup> "Item, it is statute and ordained, . . . that all Freeholders dwelland within ony Schireffedomes compeir at the head courtes in their proper persones with their seales; bot gif it happen them to be absent upon a reasonable cause. And gif onie be absent in that case, that he sende for him a sufficient Gentleman, his attorney, with the seale of his Armes. . . . And gif it happenis that the court be waik, and not sufficient in the Ryall within the Schireffedome, the Gentles of the Regalitie sall compeir at the warning of the schireffe. . . ."

With this may be compared the following extract from Acta Parl., i. 575, B. 1400 01. The act related to inquisition for retours held by Sheriffs in full court and ordained, *inter alia*, that the retours should be sealed with the seals of "fide digne" on the inquisition and with the seal of the Sheriff. "It is statute also that each baron or other person holding of the King (*i.e.* every freeholder) must have his proper seal to serve the King, as of right he is bound. And he who has not (a seal) is to fall in the King's amerçement without remission, by dittay before the Justiciar. And that they are to be seals and not signets, as hitherto has been the custom."

Swedish seals in *Svenska Sigiller*, it became apparent that it was not at all uncommon in that part of Scandinavia, being applied in a number of instances to the father of the owner of the seal (*e.g.* CLIPEVS · ERICI · PETRI · QVONDAM · FILII—the shield of Eric, son of the deceased Peter). From this origin was evidently borrowed the idea of obliterating the last word (possibly a designation of some kind) and adding “quondam” to the name of the late owner when a son was using the seal; a fresh matrix probably being difficult to obtain locally.

## I.

THE HARTLEPOOL TOMBSTONES, AND THE RELATIONS BETWEEN  
CELTIC AND TEUTONIC ART IN THE EARLY CHRISTIAN  
PERIOD. BY PROFESSOR G. BALDWIN BROWN, F.S.A. SCOT.

Three interesting groups of Early Christian monuments occur within the limits of the ancient kingdom of Northumbria. The group that is earliest and from the archaeological point of view most important is located in Galloway, and is pre-Northumbrian in that it belongs to the period of the mission established in that region by Ninian at the beginning of the fifth century. These Galloway monuments, situated at Kirkmadrine and Whithorn, are of course very well known to readers of the *Proceedings*. The group that is most important artistically is that formed by the famous cross-shafts at Bewcastle in Cumberland and Ruthwell in Dumfriesshire, with some other pieces at Jedburgh and elsewhere that are affiliated to them. The third group, which is the subject of this paper, is of less intrinsic worth but possesses great incidental value in that it is connected with archaeological questions of wide-reaching interest. It consists in a series of small stone monuments found for the most part at Hartlepool in Durham, and commonly known as the Hartlepool Tombstones. They strongly resemble certain monuments of similar character in Ireland. The monuments are Northumbrian in date and location, and on the ground that at the time they were made Northumbria included eastern Scotland up to the Forth, the attention of the members of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland may fairly be claimed for them.

We are informed by Bede<sup>1</sup> that the royally-born and devoted Hild, two years after she had embraced the religious life, was made abbess

*Hist. Eccl.*, iv. 23.



in the monastery called Heruteu (or, as a correction in one of the MSS. gives it, Heortesig), explained by Bede as 'insula cervi,'<sup>1</sup> and undoubtedly Hartlepool. The settlement had been founded not long before by the pious handmaid of Christ, Heiu, who was said to be the first woman in the province of Northumbria to take upon her the vows and habit of a nun. This foundation would be about 640 A.D. Exactly where the settlement was placed we are not told, and there was no consistent local tradition as to its situation at the time when, in 1816, Sir Cuthbert Sharpe, F.S.A., published his *History of Hartlepool*.<sup>2</sup> The Map reproduced, fig. 1, from this work<sup>3</sup> shows the peninsula on which Hartlepool stands at a time when the modern growth of the town had not yet begun. This followed on the inception of an extensive scheme for the improvement of the docks, for which an Act was obtained in 1832. Provision had to be made for a large influx of workmen, and ground for new houses was broken up in the part known as Wells's Field to the south-east of the church. Here in the month of July 1833 there was made a discovery of much archæological interest.<sup>4</sup> The workmen broke in upon an ancient burying-ground in which, we are told, the bodies had evidently been disposed with no little care. With the bones there came to light a number of shaped stones some of which were plain while on others there were ornamental crosses and inscriptions. Most unfortunately no supervision was exercised by the local authorities. No plans or drawings were made nor were accurate descriptions drawn up showing the relative positions of the objects brought to light. The bones, we are told, were 'carefully removed . . . and deposited in the churchyard,' though without proper osteological examination, but the other objects in the graves were dispersed, and either appropriated on the spot or sold to strangers. In view of certain archæological questions which might easily have been solved at the moment of discovery but must always now remain uncertain, it will be well to quote here, verbatim, portions of the original notices of the find. The more important statements are printed in italics, and the passages are lettered for convenience of reference.

<sup>1</sup> *Hist. Eccl.*, iii, 24.

<sup>2</sup> Republished, with a *Supplemental History to 1851* from the pen of the publisher, by John Procter, Hartlepool, in the year just noted. The copy kindly lent to the present writer by a Hartlepool friend had bound up with it at the end the *Notes* by Father Haigh referred to *postea*, p. 199.

<sup>3</sup> The writer is indebted for permission to make use of the Map to the kindness of Mr F. W. Mason, publisher, Hartlepool, who succeeded to the rights of Mr Procter. Some names have been written into the Map as now reproduced, while others have been erased. The situation of the cemetery, as determined by local inquiries which have kindly been made, is shown by the cross and the letters CEM at the bottom of the Map.

<sup>4</sup> *Supplemental History*, p. 25.



Fig. 1. Old Map of Hartlepool, from Sharpe's *History of Hartlepool*, 1816, with the addition of some modern names.

In the *Durham Advertiser* of July 12, 1833, appeared the following communication, (a), 'Within the last few days a great number of human skulls and other remains of mortality have been discovered in a field adjoining Hartlepool Moor, by the men employed there in digging the foundations for a house. The bones in some instances remained in a great degree united, though no perfect skeleton was found. *The heads of the deceased seemed to have been all placed, when interred, either on or against a square or oblong flagstone, ornamented with some device, and apparently bearing an inscription in Saxon or other characters.* It is conjectured that the field in which these interesting remains have been discovered had at some distant period been used as a burial-ground to the ancient Friary which is near the spot.' The Friary, marked on the Map, fig. 1, to the north of Wells's Field, was a Franciscan house founded in the thirteenth century. A further notice on July 26, (a<sup>1</sup>) mentions that '*the bodies lay north and south,*' and on August 2 the same journal published an article on the stones, inscriptions, etc., that was ascribed to the pen of the historian of St Cuthbert, the antiquary James Raine.

In September of this same year 1833 a writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, p. 219, claiming to give a 'correct account,' says, (b), 'In the month of July last, in digging the foundations of a house belonging to Mr John Buhner, *in a field called Cross Close*, at a distance of about 135 yards from the present churchyard, in a south-easterly direction, at the depth of three feet and a half, and immediately on the limestone, the workmen discovered several skeletons *lying in a position nearly north and south. . . . A large number of the skulls were resting on small flat plain stones, varying from 4 to 5 inches square, and under a few were discovered stones bearing inscriptions, and marked with the cross. . . .* By the discovery of so many skeletons lying in nearly the same position, it may fairly be presumed that the burial-place of the monastery has been disturbed. . . . For my part, I am strongly inclined to consider them' (the skeletons) '*principally of the feminine gender.*' The antiquary John Gage communicated a notice of the find to vol. xxv. of *Archæologia*, published in 1834, and states with regard to the inscribed and figured stones, (c), '*upon each of them rested the skull of a human skeleton which lay extended in a direction nearly north and south; a long brass pin or brooch with an oblong head, was the only other thing found, as a relic of the dead.*' He records too, the statement of an eye-witness that 'the heads lay upon the stones, as upon pillows.'

A few years later, in 1838, fresh finds of the same kind came to light, and in the *Gateshead Observer* of Oct. 20 in that year we read, (d), 'A stone was found on Monday last at Hartlepool by some workmen while

digging a cellar in the South Terrace. . . . Last week the same men had found several human bones, *each skeleton having a flat stone beneath the head*. . . . Several stones were found about four or five years ago, within a few yards of the same place. . . . The burial-place in which these stones have been found, appears, as far as can be ascertained, to have been *not more than 15 or 20 yards long, and the bodies placed in two lengths only, north and south, the stones about a foot and a half from the surface*.' The *Gentleman's Magazine* of November 1838, p. 536, refers to the above article and states, (e), '*under each skull was a flat stone, as during the former excavations*.' Again in February 1844 the *Gentleman's Magazine*, p. 187, writes of still later discoveries, (f), '*Underneath this stone (No. 8 of the series, see *postea*, p. 202) was a skeleton with the head resting on a small square stone: and shortly after, another skeleton was taken up very perfect. It was lying with the head towards the west, and it appeared to be that of a female. Underneath the head was another small stone, measuring  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches square: but neither of these pillow stones had any inscription*. Shortly after two more skeletons were taken up. They must have belonged to very tall men, as the thigh bones of both of them measured  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches. They were lying one over the other.'

Soon after this, in 1845, appeared the first formal illustrated account of the find, in the shape of a paper by Daniel Haigh in the first volume of the *Journal of the British Archaeological Association*. After mentioning 'Cross Close' and its position, he continues, (g), 'There, at the depth of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet from the surface, and immediately on the limestone rock, several skeletons, *apparently of females*, were found in two rows, in a position nearly north and south. Their heads were resting on small flat stones as upon pillows, and *above them* there were others of a larger size, marked with crosses and inscriptions in Saxon and Runic letters. *Most of these were dispersed immediately after the discovery: a few only, with some fragments, became available to antiquarian research*. . . . Some bone pins were the only other relics found on this occasion. But no systematic researches were made, either then or since.' . . .

Haigh was an authority on ancient Hartlepool, on which he published two papers besides the above.<sup>1</sup> In the first, (h), (p. 17), he writes of 'several skeletons, *both male and female*, apparently of a tall race, and remarkable for the thickness of the forepart of their skulls . . . *over them* were other stones,' etc. In the second paper, published in 1875, he repeats what is quoted above, with the difference that he now adds, (i), 'it is said that stones marked with crosses and inscribed *were placed under some of them*; but this I cannot believe; indeed, the very nature of the inscriptions

<sup>1</sup> *Notes on the History of S. Beu and S. Hild*, Hartlepool, J. Procter, 185—. 'The Monasteries of S. Heu and S. Hild,' in *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal*, vol. III, 1875.

contradicts it.' Finally there may be quoted the notice of the find in the *Supplemental History*, of 1851, p. 25. (j). 'The skeletons were laid in order, side by side, the head apparently to the north; and under each head was placed a small stone, worked with some degree of care, to a uniform shape, about seven or eight inches square, some bearing characters which were evidently northern, or Runic, as many supposed.'

A comparison of the various accounts which have now been quoted shows that there is some difficulty in knowing the relation between the plain and the figured stones, and in determining exactly what position the memorial slabs occupied in connection with the burials. Were they really as they are commonly termed 'pillow stones,' on which the heads

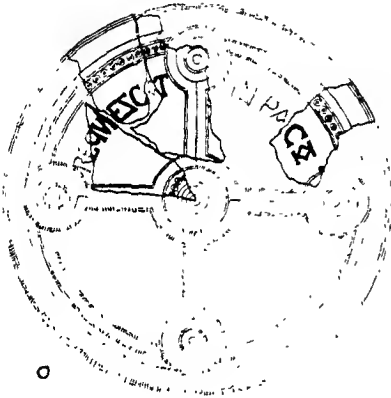


Fig. 2. Hartlepool Slab, now lost.

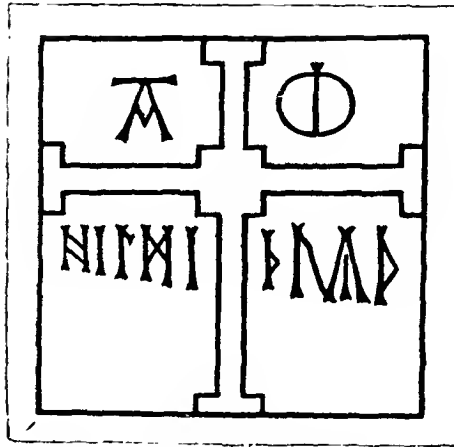
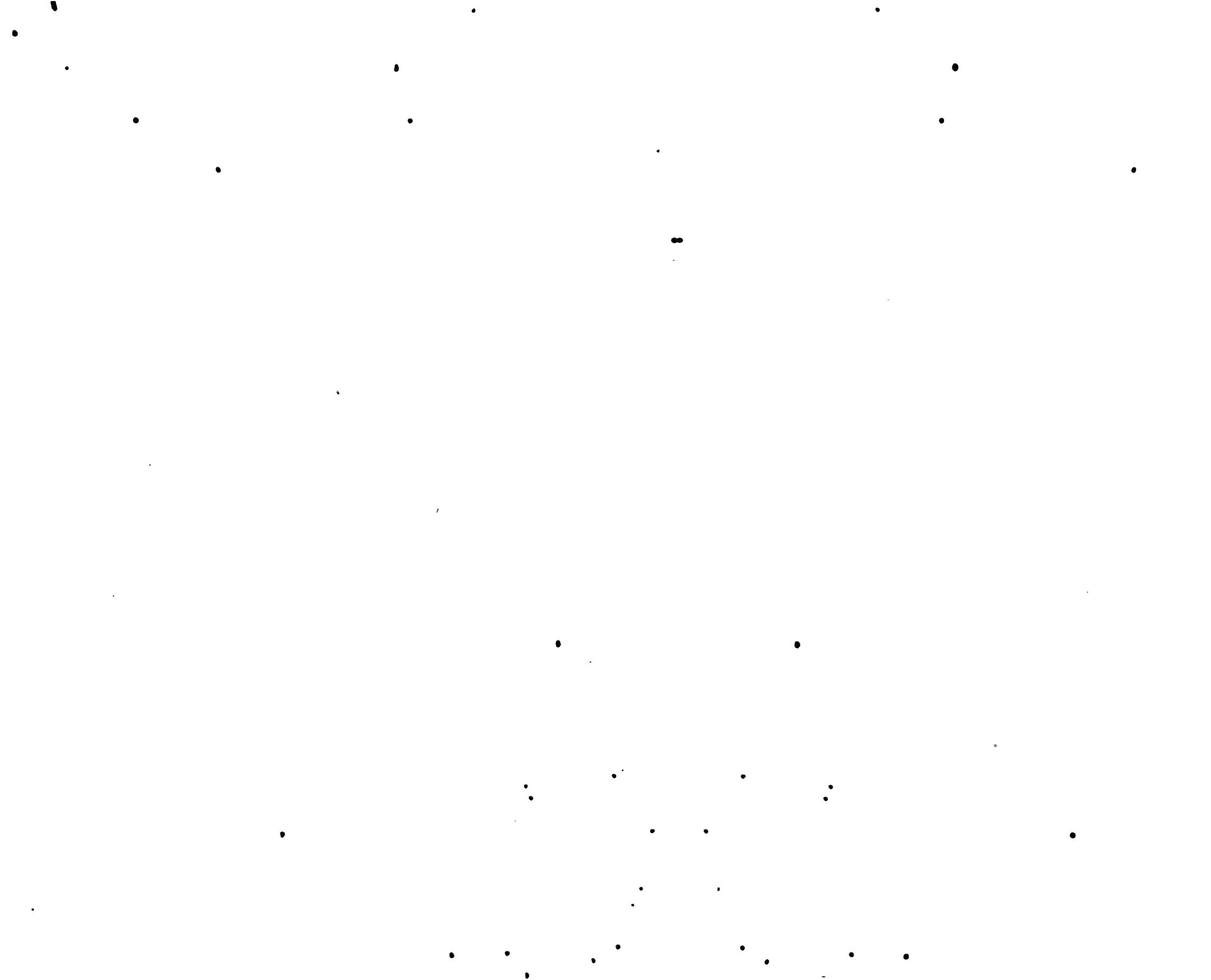


Fig. 3. Hartlepool Slab, now lost.

of the deceased were actually laid, or did they stand or lie over or beside the interred bodies and not actually under their heads? This question cannot be discussed until the stones have been fully described.

Haigh numbers the stones 1 to 8, and it is best to follow his enumeration. Nos. 1 to 5, with an extra stone of a different type that may be numbered 0, are the outcome of the original discovery of 1833, but they were apparently only the survivors of a much larger number of stones enriched or plain, of which Haigh writes in passage (g). No. 6 was found in 1838, and 7 and 8 in 1843. Of these nine stones Nos. 0 and 1 are now missing, 2 and 4 are in the Black Gate Museum at Newcastle, 3, 5, 7 and 8 in the British Museum, and No. 6 in the Durham Cathedral Library. No. 0, given from Haigh's engraving in fig. 2, was of circular form marked with an equal-armed cross with the arms ending in circles, and an inscription *REQUIESCAT IN PACE* 'very beautifully executed.' The diameter



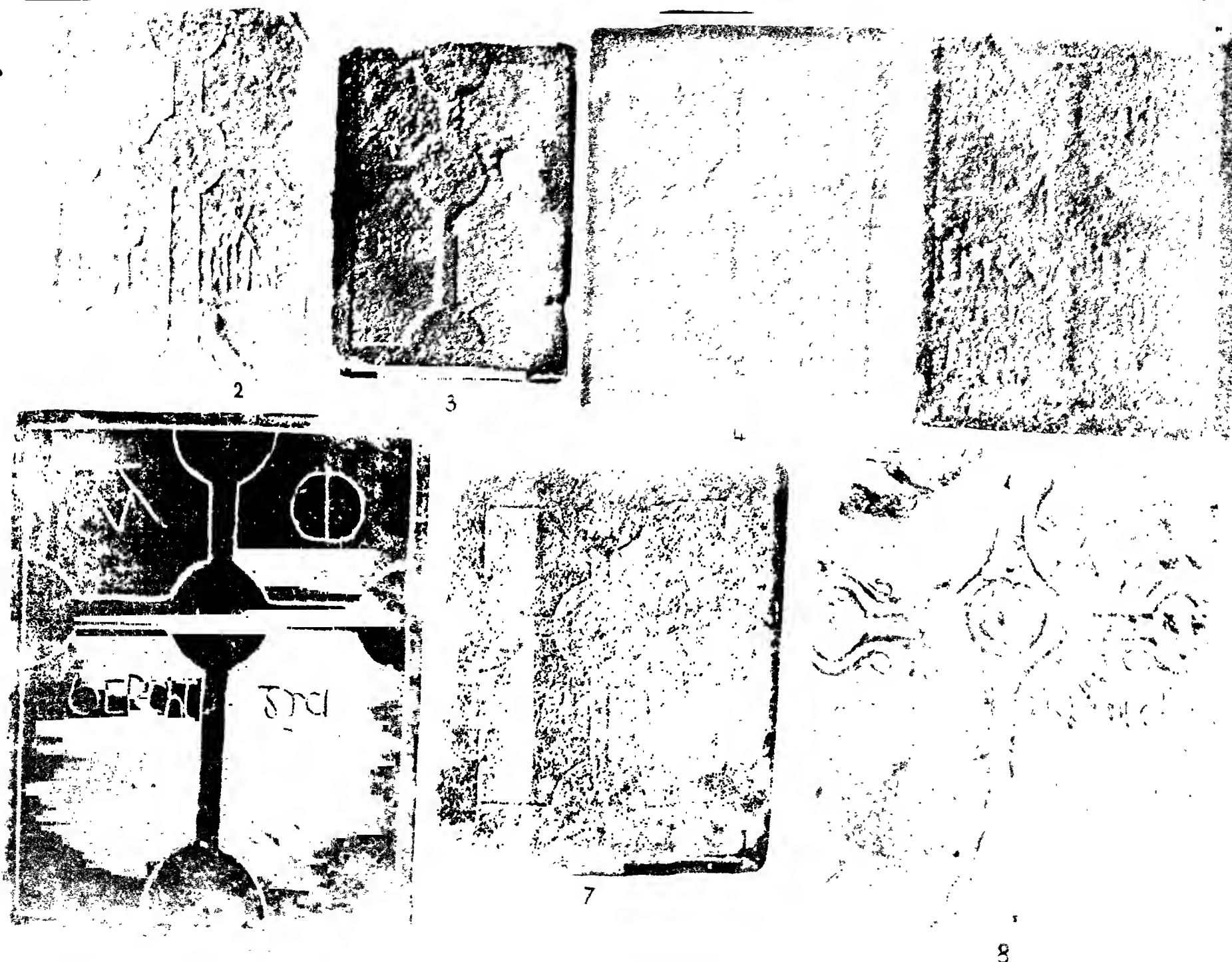


Fig. 1. Hartlepool Tombstones now existing.

was about 13 inches. No. 1 was a square slab measuring rather less than a foot on each side. A cross was incised upon it with A and  $\omega$  on the two sides of the upper arm and running irregularly across the lower half of the stone a woman's name **HILDITHRYTH** inscribed in runic characters. This lost piece is given from Haigh's engraving in fig. 3. Nos. 2 to 8 are still in existence and fig. 4 shows them together in a series of photographs all to the same scale. As reproduced they are one-third the natural size.

No. 2, at Newcastle, measures  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $6\frac{3}{4}$  in., and is  $1\frac{3}{8}$  in. thick. The edges and back are dressed quite smooth but not in any way ornamented. Across the lower part is written in runes the female name **HILDDIGYTH**. The G was left out by the cutter and has been added above, a dot showing where it was to be inserted.

No. 3, in the British Museum, is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  in., with a thickness from  $1\frac{3}{8}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. The back is dressed smooth but in places it has been scored into and damaged. The name, that of a male, in Hiberno-Saxon characters is **EDILUINI**.

No. 4, at Newcastle, has a height of  $8\frac{3}{4}$  in. and a breadth of  $6\frac{3}{4}$  in., with a thickness above of  $2\frac{3}{4}$  in. and below of  $2\frac{3}{8}$  in. It is smooth on the back and sides but not so neatly dressed or even as is No. 2. The inscription, in three lines, asks for prayers for two persons, one male and one female. **ORA PRO UERMIND 7 TORHTSUID**. These three slabs have upon them, within borders, crosses of the same form, but in 2 the cross is incised, in 3 and 4 in relief.

No. 5, in the national collection, has the surface a good deal abraded: it is neatly squared and finished, the back quite smooth and dressed as if for show. The dimensions are  $8\frac{1}{2}$  in. by  $6\frac{5}{8}$  in., with a thickness of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. The cross here is of remarkable form with steps in the place of the curves at the centre and the ends of the arms. One inscription, in five lines, is the longest of all and asks for prayers on behalf of the three persons mentioned on Nos. 3 and 4. **ORATE PRO EDILUINI ORATE PRO UERMUND ET TORHTSUID**. The letters here and on 3 and 4 are a mixture of majuscules and minuscules partly Roman partly Hiberno-Saxon in form.

No. 6, found in 1838 and now in Durham Cathedral Library, is the largest and best-preserved specimen of all. It is very truly cut, measuring in height from  $11\frac{1}{4}$  in. to  $11\frac{5}{8}$  in. by a breadth of 10 in. to  $10\frac{1}{4}$  in., the thickness varying from  $2\frac{3}{4}$  in. to 3 in. Carefully squared it is dressed smooth, on back and edges. Two square sinkings in the back look modern as if intended to facilitate the mounting of the piece for exhibition. The cross is incised in the same technique as the inscription which gives the name **BERCHTGVD** in Hiberno-Saxon minuscules. Above, on each side of the upper arm of the cross, are the letters A  $\omega$  which also appeared upon the



lost stone No. 1 (fig. 3). The  $\omega$  takes a curious form due to the carver mixing up the capital and the minuscule Omega with some reminiscence of the Omicron. It is evidently by the upright stroke an Omega, for this stroke is the central one of the minuscule form of that letter. The incised lines are sharply cut to the depth of about  $\frac{1}{16}$  in. as by a knife scoring a V-shaped groove in wood, and there is not the smallest sign of weathering so that the work might have been cut yesterday. The vertical and horizontal lines scratched on the face as a guide for the incised lines marking the cross are visible even in the small photograph, and so is the little depression in the centre where one point of the dividers was placed. The material is an easily worked but a very compact and even-grained magnesian limestone closely resembling that of the turned baluster shafts from Monkwearmouth, specimens of which are in the Durham Cathedral Library. These Monkwearmouth shafts, four of which are still *in situ* in the church porch wonderfully preserved, show that the stone was an excellent one for resisting the ravages of time. The writer is kindly informed by Mr S. F. Sainty of West Hartlepool, who as hydraulic engineer is familiar with the local geological formations, that the magnesian limestone of the place has just the same qualities as the material of the small slabs, being in some places very hard and in others so soft as to yield to the finger-nail. This last is the case with the stone of Nos. 5 and 8.

Nos. 7 and 8 came to light in 1843, and are both in the British Museum. No. 7 is 9 in. high by  $7\frac{3}{4}$  by 2 in. The back is dressed fairly smooth but is not finished for show. It is not very well preserved and the name, in Hiberno-Saxon characters with a use of ligatures which occur also on Nos. 4 and 5 but not on the other stones of the series, has been read HANEGNEVB.

No. 8 differs from the rest in the ornate character of the cross, but of the inscription, in minuscules, only the last letters -UGUID can be read. It measures in height 11 in., in breadth  $8\frac{3}{4}$  in. below and 9 in. above, and is the thickest of all—from  $4\frac{1}{4}$  to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  in. The back is roughly hewn by axe strokes. The material is a quite soft limestone.

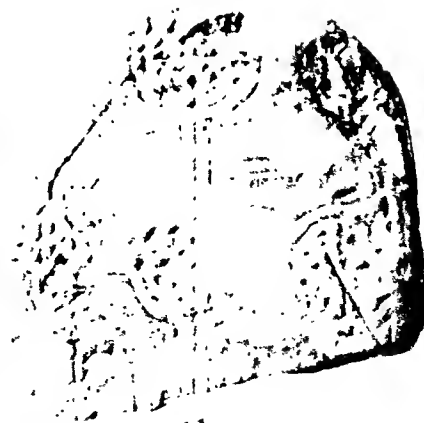
The Hartlepool slabs are not the only ones of their kind that have been found in the north. Three others, closely resembling them but with one striking difference, have come to light between 1888 and 1915 at Lindisfarne, in or near the Abbey Church, but evidently in no case in their original position. They are shown in fig. 5 all on the same scale and one-third the natural size, just as is the case with the Hartlepool examples in fig. 4. They are numbered here Lindisfarne 9, 10, 11, and were figured and described by Mr C. R. Peers in *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, 2 Ser., XXVII. 1915, p. 132. No. 9 was found in 1888 in



9



10



11

Fig. 5. Stones of the Hartlepool type found at Lindisfarne.

the burial-ground attached to the parish church a little way from the Priory, but no bones were discovered with it: it was published in *Proc. Soc. Ant.*, 2 Ser., XII, p. 412. The material is like that of the other Lindisfarne specimens a hard sandstone, and the surface is considerably abraded, so that in the present position of the piece under glass and built into the wall of the church porch it is not easy to make out what is on it. The dimensions are  $8\frac{1}{4}$  in. by  $6\frac{3}{4}$  in., with a thickness of about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. The back is rough. Earlier photographs however show that it had incised upon it a cross with complete rounds at the ends of the arms and a male name that appears to be AEDBERECHT. Nos. 10 and 11 made their appearance in 1915 in the course of excavations carried on by H.M. Office of Works in the nave of the Priory church. No bones were found near them and they are supposed not to have been *in situ*. No. 10 is comparatively well preserved though in parts broken. It measures in height  $8\frac{1}{2}$  in., with a width of  $6\frac{1}{2}$  in. below, tapering to  $5\frac{1}{4}$  in. where the curve of the head begins. It is 2 in. thick and the back, like those of Nos. 9 and 11, is rough. The form of the cross resembles what we find on most of the Hartlepool slabs, but the inscription is of special interest in that it is biliteral, the name OSGYTH being written above in runes and below in Hiberno-Saxon characters. Osyth being a female name may be taken as evidence that at Lindisfarne, as on other early monastic sites in the north, there was a double community of men and women. A peculiarity is the circular depression at the intersection of the arms.

No. 11 differs from all the others in the two series save Hartlepool No. 8 in the presence of ornament in the form of plait work filling the rounds at the intersection of the arms and at their terminations. The slab has unfortunately been broken. It is about 6 in. wide, and is rough at the back. There are remains of an inscription.

The peculiarity of the rounded head, in which the Lindisfarne slabs differ from those found at Hartlepool, seems to have no direct bearing on the question whether or not the stones were supports for the skulls of the deceased, but in another connection it is important as proving in each case the local character of the work. The Hartlepool stones are cut in the local magnesian limestone and are all rectangular. (The stone Hartlepool 0 is exceptional.) At Lindisfarne the material is the local sandstone and all the pieces have rounded heads, and moreover the edges of the face are rounded off and not left square as at Hartlepool. The Lindisfarne stones not being found *in situ* are no help in the discussion of the question of the original disposition of the slabs.

There remain the two questions, (1) of the original disposition of the

slabs, (2) of the date of the interments and of the slabs. The first is of some antiquarian interest but little depends on it, whereas the answer we give to the second question involves important considerations affecting our whole view of art in the British Isles during the Early Christian and early mediæval periods.

The reader who has perused the passages quoted (pp. 198-200) will have noted that the position of the skulls is given in (a) as '*either on or against*,' in (b) (c) (i) as *above*, and in (f) (g) (h) as *underneath* the inscribed and figured stones, while accounts (b) (d) (e) (f) (g) agree that the heads rested on small plain flat stones as upon pillows. None of these last, unfortunately, has been preserved. The use of such pillow stones is inherited from the funeral arrangements of Anglo-Saxon pagandom,<sup>1</sup> and Bede expressly mentions an instance of its survival in the burial of Sebbi, King of the East Saxons, who was laid in a stone sarcophagus with a pillow stone (cervical) under his head.<sup>2</sup> The pillow stone is thus a pagan trait, and may be taken with another pagan peculiarity in the burials, their orientation. The *Durham Advertiser* of July 26, 1833, stated distinctly (a<sup>1</sup>) that in the first find all the skeletons lay north and south, and the same is said in (d). The exceptional interment with head to the west found in 1844, (f), is specially noted. Passage (j) states that in the north and south interments the head was to the north instead of, as one would expect, to the south. On this, as upon the pagan character of north and south orientation, see the passage referred to in note below. What has just been said is of course in favour of an early date for the burials.

Returning to the inscribed stones, we have first to inquire whether their original position was above ground like ordinary tombstones or with the bodies in the graves. They were certainly recumbent slabs, for there is no tenon or prolongation at the bottom edge by which they could have been fixed in an upright position. The slabs might conceivably have been laid *above* the graves, just sunk in the ground to a depth corresponding with their thickness, and have found their way down in the course of the ages to the level of the actual interment. The condition of them however, and their location when found, really preclude this possibility. The slabs are on the whole in very good, in one case, No. 6, almost perfect preservation, although they are of comparatively soft magnesian limestone and would have been scored or broken had they been trodden on or knocked about. Furthermore, they were evidently all found face upwards and in every case so near to a skull that this seemed to be upon, against, or under it.

<sup>1</sup> Baldwin Brown, *The Arts in Early England*, Lond., 1903 etc., III, p. 155 f.

<sup>2</sup> *Hist. Eccl.*, iv, 11.

This would not have been the case if they had found their way casually into the graves, but they would have come to light in a fragmentary condition and disposed irregularly at different levels and in all kinds of positions among the bones. Haigh<sup>1</sup> suggests that the stones with inscribed names were put beside the bodies to serve as identification discs in case at any after time there were a question of the translation of the remains. The practice is observable elsewhere, for de Rossi<sup>2</sup> notices certain cases of stone tablets inscribed with the name of a defunct that were found *inside* closed sarcophagi. The stones inscribed with a petition for prayer for the defunct present of course a difficulty, for this petition was addressed to the living, and it would seem senseless to bury underground the stone which bore it. This objection may however be countered if we reflect that in those times the grave was in a sense an inhabited place, not one merely for the decent disposal of waste products. Tomb furniture bears witness to this vague belief, and the deceased may have been equipped with an appeal for prayers in the same spirit in which the corpse was furnished with the arms and ornaments carried and worn in life. Exactly how the inscribed stones were placed will probably always remain uncertain, and the present writer believes that they were not under but beside or beyond the heads. The general impression among the bystanders at the excavation may well have been that plain pillow stones and inscribed stones were all alike, and were all intended for the heads of the bodies to rest upon them. As a fact the skulls may have been *on* the plain stones but *against* the figured ones, though the distinction was not at the time fully realized.

A more important question is that of the date of the stones. The first idea, an obviously absurd one, was that the graveyard belonged to the Friary of the thirteenth century, the second that it was to be referred to the early monastic settlement of the seventh century, and this has remained the prevailing opinion up to the present time. The orientation of the graves and their equipment with pillow stones are early symptoms, and the early Anglian character of the names<sup>3</sup> with the fact that they are partly in runes produces the same impression. The fact that both male and female names occur is of great significance, for the primitive monastery is known to have been of the double type.<sup>4</sup>

As regards the palæography of the inscriptions, the writing was noticed by Sir Hercules Read as excellent and of early character.<sup>5</sup> If the

<sup>1</sup> *Notes*, p. 23.

<sup>2</sup> *Rom. Scult.*, I, 95, 96: III, 406.

<sup>3</sup> Haigh remarks in his *Notes*, p. 24, on the similarity of the names to those found in Bede and in the Bonifacian Epistles.

<sup>4</sup> Bede, *Hist. Eccl.*, iv. 23, with Mr Plummer's note.

<sup>5</sup> *Proc. Soc. Ant.*, XXVII, 1914-15, p. 133.

graveyard were, as is always assumed, a monastic one, the date of the interments cannot in any case be later than 800 A.D. We have no information about the settlement after the period of the rule of Hild,<sup>1</sup> who left Herutu for Whitby in 657, but there is an entry in the *Flores Historiarum* of Roger of Wendover, which runs:—‘Anno Domini DCCC<sup>o</sup>. Exercitus paganorum nefandissimus ecclesias de Hercenes et de Tinemutha crudeliter spoliavit et cum spoliis ad naves recurrit,’ and this Danish raid no doubt put an end to the establishment. There is no record of any re-foundation. It is true that the antiquary Lambarde, in his *Alphabetical Description of the Chief Places in England and Wales*, published in 1730, prints on his p. 145 the following entry:—‘HEORTNESSE. A Towne in the North Partes, which Ecgred, byshop of the holy Ile, buylded, and gave to the Sea (see) for ever together with another called Wycliffe, somewhat before Eardulf fled the Ile.’ and this has been taken as evidence that Hartlepool, and presumably with it the monastery, was restored by the Lindisfarne bishop about the middle of the ninth century, thus rendering possible a later date for the little cemetery. Lambarde has however misread his authority, Symeon of Durham, who in a passage celebrating the benefactions of Ecgred to his see, states ‘duas quoque villas Hecliff & Wigeclif sed et Billingham in Heorternessee, quarum ipse conditor fuerat, locis superioribus quæ prædicto Confessori (St Cuthbert) donaverat perpetuo possidenda adjicit.’ ‘Heorternessee’ here means the district where Billingham, a few miles inland, is situated, not Hartlepool itself, and the passage contains not a shadow of evidence for a ninth-century restoration of Herutu. In any case the year 875 closed the record entirely, for in that year the monkish community abandoned Lindisfarne, and monastic life in all that region, so open to the Viking attacks, practically came to an end.

If the suggestion be offered that the graveyard may not have been monastic at all but secular, and may therefore have been of any date, the answer is ready to the hand. As a fact we know really nothing about the primitive history of graveyards attached to secular churches, and how early there can have existed such a graveyard in this district it is impossible to say. One thing is however quite certain. The district cemetery would not have been at Hartlepool, for St Hilda’s church at Hartlepool has not been, till quite recently, an independent parish church but only a chapel dependent on the mother church of Hart some miles inland. As explained in the writer’s previous work *The Arts in Early England*, I, p. 318 f., the burial-ground and the burial fees

<sup>1</sup> The notice in Bede’s *Life of Cuthbert*, referred to *Proc. Soc. Ant.*, XXVII, 1914-15, p. 132, does not apply to Herutu, but to Hild’s first monastery between the mouths of the Wear and Tyne, perhaps at South Shields.

appertained to the mother church, and a dependent chapel would not have the right of interment. Hence even if Hartlepool church had been built as early as the ninth or tenth century it would not have had a graveyard.

On the whole the evidence for the monastic character and early date of the Hartlepool cemetery seems fairly conclusive, and some surprise may be felt that this chronological question has been so closely examined. The truth is however that there exists a piece of evidence which is *prima*

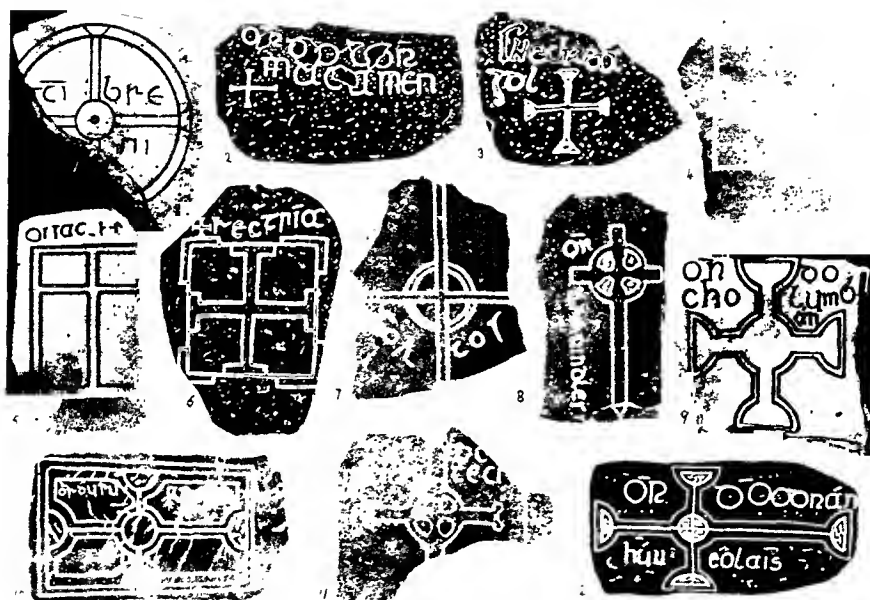


Fig. 6. Irish Inscribed Slabs.

*facie* of considerable weight and which, if established, would relegate the Hartlepool burials to a period at least two centuries later than the provisional date now arrived at.

That there is a resemblance between the Hartlepool stones and slabs of a similar type in Ireland has already been noted. The latter are found in abundance at Clonmacnois, Monasterboice, and other early ecclesiastical sites, and George Petrie's two volumes entitled *Christian Inscriptions in the Irish Language*<sup>1</sup> contain numerous examples, a selection from which will be found in fig. 6. Petrie's classical work must however be used in connection with the recent study by Professor R. A. Stewart Macalister, F.S.A., *The Memorial Slabs of Clonmacnois*,

<sup>1</sup> Edited by Miss Margaret Stokes, Dublin, 1872-8.

published at Dublin in 1909 by the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, which corrects Petrie in many details and adds a good many fresh examples. In fig. 6 the drawings reproduced from Petrie are corrected in details from the outlines in Prof. Macalister's work, and reproductions of several of the latter have been added to the illustration. It must be noted that Petrie's volumes will always retain their worth, for he described and figured many stones, some of outstanding value, that are now lost. Indeed, Prof. Macalister says, p. vii, 'when Dr Petrie visited Clonmacnois in 1822, he must have found nearly twice as many slabs as I was able to discover.'

A glance at fig. 6 will show that the Irish slabs resemble the Northumbrian ones in the use and in some of the forms of the cross, and in the style of the inscriptions, the formula OR DO or OR AR or OROIT AR corresponding to the Northumbrian OR or ORATE PRO, in each case followed by a name or names. There are at the same time marked differences in that the Irish slabs are much larger than the Hartlepool ones and are of very irregular outlines. That the fractures which are the cause of this irregularity were not all made after the stones were inscribed is shown by the fact that the inscriptions are sometimes seen to conform to the broken contours, proving that the stones were not squared before they were worked. This rough treatment of the edges, compared with the accurate shaping and finish of the Hartlepool and Lindisfarne examples, constitutes a very marked difference. Another may be found in the fact that whereas the Irish stones are only incised the Northumbrian carvers worked at times in relief, *e.g.*, fig. 4, Nos. 3, 4, 5. Again, while the majority were intended, like the Anglian stones, to occupy a recumbent position, some were evidently designed to stand erect. There is no suggestion in the case of the Irish slabs that they were pillow stones, or were interred with the bodies in the grave. Like the early Hereberecht tombstone from Monkwearmouth, they were meant to be placed over or at the head of the graves so as to keep before the eyes of the living the names of the departed.

In face of these marked differences it may be questioned whether a reference to Ireland is really called for, and this opens up the general subject of the relations in Early Christian times between the ecclesiastical forms and the art of Celtic Ireland and those of our own country. On this a word or two may be said.

When the Hartlepool stones are called 'Irish' in type there is a tacit assumption that there were in the sister island examples of the same kind of work but of earlier origin. A justification for this assumption may be found in the following considerations.



Ireland received Christianity at an early date and the Celtic church in the island developed in freedom on its own independent lines till Irish ecclesiastics in the sixth and seventh centuries were famed all over western Christendom for their learning and sanctity.<sup>1</sup> They sent missionaries to the Continent and they attracted students and votaries of the ascetic life to their own monastic cells. Reference is often made to the stream of Saxon students setting to Ireland in the latter part of the seventh century to drink in learning at the fountain-head, and there is a letter of Aldhelm in which he is inclined to reproach his correspondent, one Eafrit, for having spent as much as six years in Erin 'uber sophiæ sugens.' He there uses an expression signifying that Ireland enjoyed at the time a sort of tacitly recognized precedence in these matters of learning and religion.<sup>2</sup> Now there are obvious reasons why we should recognize for Ireland a somewhat similar precedence in matters of construction and art, at least in comparison with the northern parts of Britain. It is true of course that the Romanized West offered a repertory of models still more abundant and varied, but Northumbria in the seventh century was in touch with Ireland far more intimately than with the Romanized West. Ireland possessed a tradition of stone construction and of decoration going back to pagan times, and Irish Christians in matters of technique and ornamental forms continued this tradition with the addition of fresh motives introduced from Romanized lands in the wake of the new religious movement. Hence the assumption is fairly justified that the Christianized Irish Celts built oratories and cells in traditional methods of construction, and ornamented the simple apparatus of ecclesiastical ritual, from the very first days of the conversion of the land. The earlier examples in these styles of work may all have perished and what remains may be of comparatively advanced date, but this need not necessarily point to a hiatus in the practice of the arts in Ireland during the first Christian centuries, when the new interest in life would on the contrary furnish to that practice a natural stimulus.

As bearing on the assumption of Irish prototypes for the Northumbrian slabs, it must be noted that the Irish works are infinitely more numerous. Prof. Macalister catalogued more than 200 examples now at Clonmacnois, and believed that Petrie saw double that number in 1822. Clonmacnois was founded in 547 A.D. and soon became a hallowed place where burial was sought, so that the cemetery, which

<sup>1</sup> See, amongst other works, H. Zimmer, *The Irish Element in Medieval Culture*, translated by J. L. Edmonds, New York and London, 1891.

<sup>2</sup> 'Cur, inquam, Hibernia, quo catervatim istinc letores classibus advecti confluuunt, ineffabili quodam privilegio efferatur'—*S. Aldhelmi Opera*, ed. Giles, Oxonii, 1844, p. 94.

has continued in use till modern times, is crowded with monuments of different dates and kinds. The view, fig. 7, gives some general idea of the site, which overlooks the Shannon, and is furnished forth with the oratories, round towers, carved crosses, and the like, that mark the Irish monastic settlement. That there were inscribed memorials of the dead already in the cemetery in the latter part of the sixth and in the seventh century does not admit of any reasonable doubt, and they



Fig. 7. View of Clonmacnois.

may safely be assumed to have been of the same general type as the earliest datable ones now on the spot. One of the poems in the Irish language about the burials at Clonmacnois printed in the first volume of Petrie's *Christian Inscriptions* supplies incidental evidence of this. The verse runs

'Nobles of the children of Conn  
Are under the flaggy, brown-sloped cemetery :  
A knot, or a craebh, over each body,  
And a fair, just, Ogham name.'

and implies that inscriptions in the Ogham character were in evidence, in the cemetery at the time the poem was written, and these would be presumably of comparatively early date. Now at present Prof. Macalister could only find at Clonmacnois one example of the use of the Ogham script, and this looks as if a good many early slabs had perished.

There is accordingly some *à priori* justification for connecting the

Hartlepool slabs with Ireland and in assuming that they had their prototypes in that country. The next point is to ascertain what light is thrown on the Northumbrian monuments and their date by a comparison with the Irish examples. Prof. Macalister arranged the Clonmacnois slabs in groups according to a chronological scheme based on considerations of morphology. First would come those with an inscription alone, as this is the essential part of the memorial. The introduction of a cross may be reckoned a later addition, and slabs on which the cross is small and just an adjunct to the name and prayer formula would be early. Later on the cross increases in size and becomes more prominent than the inscription. It is often enclosed in a square or circular panel. The cross itself, at first simple, becomes more elaborate in its form, and finally ornament of less or greater complexity is added to or connected with it. The hypothetical chronology thus indicated can be tested by a certain amount of direct evidence derived from the names upon the stones. It needs hardly to be said that great caution is here necessary, for rash inferences have too often been drawn from the casual occurrence on a slab of a name that is historically known as connected in early times with the site of the graveyard. Many of these names are quite common ones, and it does not follow that the Colman or Cormac commemorated on a monument is some particular personage of the name of whom we have an early record. Some further identification is needed and this in some cases is secured when the name of the father of the personage is also given. The most conspicuous example is that of a slab figured by Petrie but now lost, that is given fig. 8. 1. It is inscribed SUIBINE M'MAILAE HUMAI, and is without doubt the tombstone of Suibhne son of Mael-Umha, 'anchorite and scribe of Clonmacnois, the most learned Irishman of his day,' who died about 890 A.D. There are other examples in which the identification is not quite so certain, but about which there is no very strong element of doubt, while others again only justify a reasonable hypothesis. The last chapter in Prof. Macalister's study, 'Historical Contents of the Inscriptions,' is taken here as a guide.

Taking the examples in fig. 6, No. 1 was found by Petrie at Tempul Breacain in the island of Aran Mor. It seems to have on it the name SCĪ BRECANI,<sup>1</sup> but there is no evidence of its date. It is useful for comparison with No. 0 in the Hartlepool series in fig. 4. No. 2 is from Macalister (No. 22, Petrie's No. 49). It bears a small cross patty as an adjunct to the inscription OR DO CORMAC AMEN, and Macalister, who reckons it early, writes,<sup>2</sup> 'It is just conceivable that this may

<sup>1</sup> For the sake of clearness the inscriptions on the stones are given in the text in Roman letters, though the actual lettering is in great part in Irish minuscules.

<sup>2</sup> Macalister, p. 103.

commemorate Abbot Cormac I, 757 A.D.' The name is however a common one. On the other hand the name on No. 3, Snedreaghail, accompanied by a similar cross though of Greek not Latin form, is so rare that it 'is found but once in the Annals, as the name of an Abbot of Clonmacnois who died in 781,'<sup>1</sup> and it is a very plausible hypothesis that we have here an identification. Nos. 2 and 3 are on the Macalister chronological scheme of early type. No. 4, from Petrie's 27 corrected from Macalister's 41, gives us an instance of the cross inscribed in a rectangular panel, after the Hartlepool fashion. No. 5 has a simpler cross of the Latin form in a

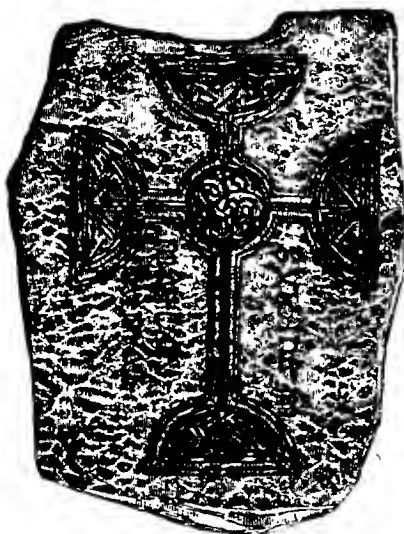


FIG. 8, 1, THE SLAB OF SUAMNE (from Petrie).

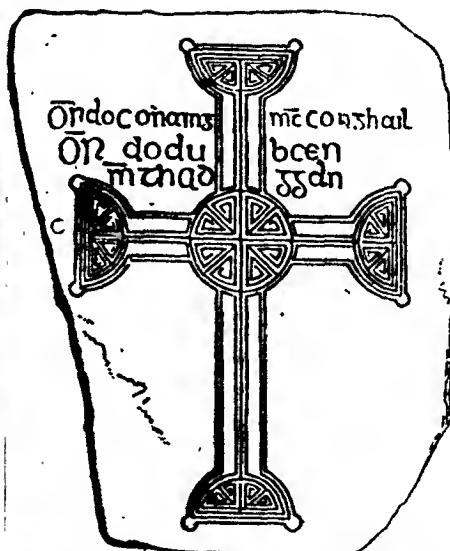


FIG. 8, 2, THE SLAB OF DUCEN AND CONANG (from Petrie).

Fig. 8. Two datable Slabs at Clonmacnois.

panel, and No. 6 is a variation on No. 4, with the name RECTNIA preceded by a small initial cross, which it must be noticed is a very rare feature on these Irish slabs,<sup>2</sup> while in Anglo-Saxon religious inscriptions it is so common as to be almost universal. Prof. Macalister is disposed to equate the Rectnia of this slab with an abbot of that name who died in 779 and remarks, 'the name is uncommon, and the style of art and the lettering seem to favour an early date.'<sup>3</sup> The next slab, Petrie's No. 5, now lost, with the name FORCOS gives us a circle surrounding the intersection of the limbs of a plain cross. The same circle, in a form that will at once be recognized as 'Celtic,' appears in Nos. 8 and 11. The name on No. 8, CUINDLESS, a rare one, makes the Irish scholar think naturally

<sup>1</sup> Macalister, p. 103.<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 8.<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 103.

of Cuindles who died abbot of Clonmacnois in 720, but the identification is by no means certain. The Greek cross on No. 9 has the central circle and the semicircles at the four ends of the limbs which is the commonest form of the device on the Hartlepool stones, occurring on Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 10 (Lindisfarne). We have seen it already on the undated stone No. 1 in fig. 6, and it appears on a large number of Irish examples of which our Nos. 10, Petrie's 77 at Monasterboice, and 12, Macalister 145 Petrie 131, are specimens. No. 12 bears the inscription OR DŌ ODRÁN HÁU EOLAIS, and Odrán hua Eolais was a scribe of Clonmacnois who died in 994.<sup>1</sup> Here there seems no doubt as to the identification. We obtain therefore at Clonmacnois two certain examples of this form of cross, so common at Hartlepool and Lindisfarne, one at each extremity of the 10th century, while one almost certain, a tombstone that may be dated about 950,<sup>2</sup> is shown in fig. 8. 2. The unidentified examples of the same type figured by Prof. Macalister and called by him 'perhaps, the most characteristic form of the Clonmacnois crosses,'<sup>3</sup> number over fifty. In point of style and ornamental details they correspond closely to the 'Suibine' and 'Odran' stones, thus seeming to establish this particular device as belonging in Ireland to the 10th century, a couple of centuries later than the epoch to which on historical grounds the Northumbrian slabs have been ascribed. Clonmacnois evidence points to the arrangement of the cross in a panel as an earlier indication, and we have seen that fig. 6, No. 6, is very likely the tombstone of an abbot who died in 779. Prof. Macalister locates the type in the eighth century. His earliest date, though only a hypothetical one, is about 720 for the 'Cuindless' slab No. 8. This bears an upright Latin cross of Celtic form with a spike below for fixing it into the ground, a form of the cross not represented in the Northumbrian series.

On the whole it appears that Irish evidence is against the provisional date which has been accepted above for the stones of the Hartlepool group, and if the use of the cross with semicircular terminations be taken as a criterion these stones would be two centuries later than English antiquaries have supposed. The earliest datable example at Clonmacnois is Suibine's of about 890, and if the Irish stones be really the prototypes the Anglian imitations should belong at the earliest to the tenth century. We are met here however by the difficulty that the date 875 closes the period at which the Hartlepool and Lindisfarne stones are historically possible (see *antea*, p. 207) and this makes it needful to reconsider the whole position. Everyone must agree that though this particular form of the cross was in fashion in Ireland in the tenth century, it may have been used elsewhere at a much earlier date. The

<sup>1</sup> Macalister, p. 97.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 99.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 25.

form itself requires analysis, and an attempt must be made (1) to fix its place from the typological point of view in the series of ornamental cross forms as they appear in Early Christian and early mediæval days in Christendom at large, and (2) to argue out from typological and historical data its probable chronology.

The results that follow from such an examination are somewhat surprising, and they may here be briefly indicated.

1. The particular form of cross under discussion though it occurs so frequently in Ireland is not in its origin Celtic but Teutonic, and occurs in Germanic tomb furniture in Britain and on the Continent centuries before it makes its appearance in Hibernian art.

2. In the case of British and continental examples of the form, the circle at the intersection of the arms of the cross is not a shrunken form of the large wheel of the 'Celtic' cross head, as is suggested by Professor Macalister for the Irish examples, but rather a decorative treatment of that important part of the cross where the arms meet in the centre. In the case of crosses of a certain kind, formed of precious metal, and borne on the person or employed for sacramental purposes, it was customary for this point of intersection to be utilized for the enshrinement of a relic, often a minute portion of the wood of the true cross, the receptacle being covered by a medallion. It would be quite natural for this covering medallion, at first of modest proportions, to increase in size and importance, till it extended beyond the general outline of the cross at the intersection, and we have here a plausible explanation of the ultimate appearance of a comparatively large circle embracing the central portion of the cross, while a feeling for decorative symmetry accounts easily for the corresponding semicircles at the ends of the arms. Evidence for this will be adduced in the sequel. The fact that the extended parts in the centre and at the ends of the arms take sometimes a square, rectangular, or stepped form, instead of one based on the circle, is probably due merely to decorative taste showing itself in a feeling for variety. There are sepulchral slabs in Northumbria of about the same date as those at Hartlepool that show crosses with rectangular centres and terminals. The early Hereberecht tombstone at Monkwearmouth is an example.

3. In regard to the ornamental handling of the cross form in general, it is noteworthy that in Teutonic and Celtic art there is considerable variety in the treatment and an abundant play of fancy, that contrast with the comparative monotony and dulness of similar work in classical lands. The cross forms on the Cloumnaicnois slabs are numerous and tastefully devised, but so also are those that occur in Germanic work that dates of course from a much earlier period, and this no doubt influenced Irish forms. On the other hand a decorative treatment of

the cross did not, it seems, appeal to the artistic sense of the classical peoples, including the Italians, the Byzantines, the Gallo- and Hispano-Roman populations of France and Spain, and the early Christians of Syria, Asia Minor, North Africa, and Egypt. In the art of all these peoples and regions little or no tendency shows itself towards a fanciful treatment of the form of the cross, while its ornamental embellishment takes the shape of jewelling the interior without affecting the outline. The simple form of the cross patty,<sup>1</sup> fig. 9 (a), with the ends of the arms broadened out and sometimes bifurcated (b), or tri-lobed (c), seems as a rule to have satisfied all requirements, and these forms occur over and over again in Early Christian art, as in the catacombs; on Syrian door lintels. Coptic tombstones, sarcophagi from or in Asia Minor.

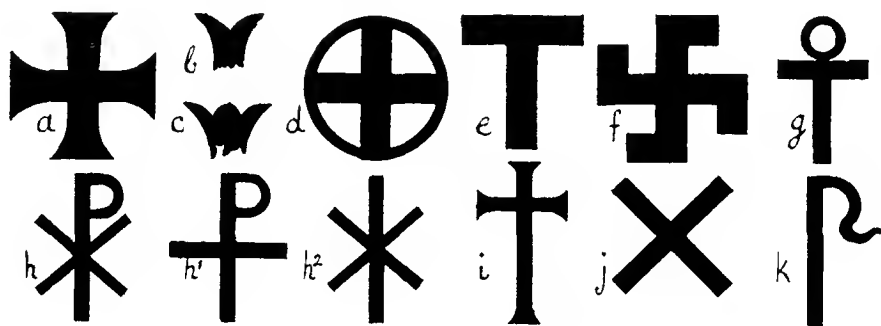



Fig. 9. Various forms of Crosses in classical art.

Rome, Ravenna, Arles: in mosaics in Italy and the Byzantine empire, manuscripts of the classical schools, Coptic textiles, and Alexandrine ivories, as well as in connection with other products of Mediterranean provenance. In these classical lands the early history of the cross form and of its embellishment is somewhat as follows.

Taking first the form, it must be noted that the cross in various shapes is pre-Christian, and was used by the pagan craftsman ornamentally as well as, at times, with religious significance. The simple four-armed cross, fitting into a circle (d), is an obvious motive of geometrical ornament, and occurs in pagan work, while in Christian times it is not necessarily always of religious intent. The same is true of the T form of the cross (e), while on the other hand the swastika, or, *crux gammata* (f, an equal-armed cross with the ends of the limbs turned back in the form of the Greek majuscule gamma)

<sup>1</sup> The older heraldic term is 'cross pattée,' and the adjective is connected with the French 'patte' or paw, the reference being to the broadening out at the pad or claw of the leg of an animal like the fox or the cat. In fig. 9 various forms of crosses are given and are referred to in the text by the letters of the alphabet by which each is marked.

and the ancient Egyptian symbol of a T cross with a circle above it (g), were employed with mystical significance in ancient oriental religions. Pre-Christian also was that form of the cross associated with the sacred monogram (h, h<sup>1</sup>, h<sup>2</sup>) which is of special interest to Scottish antiquaries as it occurs on the early inscribed stones at Kirkmadrine and Whithorn in Galloway. It is sometimes called the XP (chi-rho) monogram, because in some of its forms it consists in these two initial letters of the Greek name of Christ, but the best term for it is 'chrism.' The combination of the Greek letters X and P, to which others might be joined, was a fairly common form of monogram before Christianity came into the world, and it occurs, for example, on ancient coins, as an abbreviated form of the Greek word ΑΡΧΟΝΤΟΣ, giving only the first three letters in the device . Naturally, again, the X or St Andrew's cross (j), is not specially Christian, as it is a motive ready to the hand of the ornamentalist, and is a letter of the Greek and Roman alphabets, as well as a Roman numeral.

An examination of the Christian use of these various forms of the cross yields the following results.

The T-shaped cross is apparently the first used with Christian significance. It was the form of the Roman instrument of capital punishment, or 'patibulum,' and is known as the Tau cross, or *cruc commissa*. It is to a cross of this kind that the figure with the ass's head is affixed in the famous burlesque drawing of the crucifixion found on the Palatine at Rome, one of the earliest known representations of the subject. Whether or not it was adopted by the Christians on account of its being the instrument of the Passion, this shape of the cross was that used by the early Christians for signing themselves,<sup>1</sup> and is in all probability referred to in the passage in the Book of Revelation, which speaks of the sealing of the servants of God on their foreheads. Proof of the above is afforded by passages in Early Christian literature, of which one may be quoted. In the *Stromateis*, Book vi, Chapter 11, Clement of Alexandria writes as follows:—'they say that the fashion of the sign of the Lord is according to the shape of the numeral three hundred,'<sup>2</sup> that is, a Tau or T. In catacomb inscriptions the T cross occurs early, and Wilpert dates examples such as that shown fig. 10, 1,<sup>3</sup> as early as the second century. Of the same date also occur examples of the four-armed cross of which fig. 10, 2<sup>4</sup> shows a specimen, and the

<sup>1</sup> This 'signing' must not be interpreted as a sort of brand or visible mark, but as effected merely by the gesture, as in the familiar modern act of crossing oneself. The sign was apparently made by the finger, not the whole hand, at any rate in the earlier times.

<sup>2</sup> φασιν οὖν εἶναι τοῦ μέν κυριακοῦ σημείου τύπον, κατὰ τὸ σχῆμα τὸ τριακοσιοστὸν στοχεῖον.

<sup>3</sup> De Rossi, *Roma Sotterranea*, II, pl. xlii, 14.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, I, pl. xviii, 1.



origin of this form as used by Christians is not quite clear. It may have been adopted as an improvement in the ornamental sense on the T form, or deduced from the supposed form of the cross of Christ. If the ordinary instrument were T shaped, there must have been in this case some extension upwards of the vertical limb in order to support the tablet with the inscription over the head, and this would give the shape of the four-armed cross, or *cruc immissa*. This was apparently always at first an equal-armed cross, but at a comparatively early date—in one instance in the catacombs in the third century<sup>1</sup>—there is found the elongation of the vertical or supporting limb which gives a cross of the so-called 'Latin' form, fig. 9 (i). Here again the form may have had a decorative origin, fitting better into certain spaces than the equal-

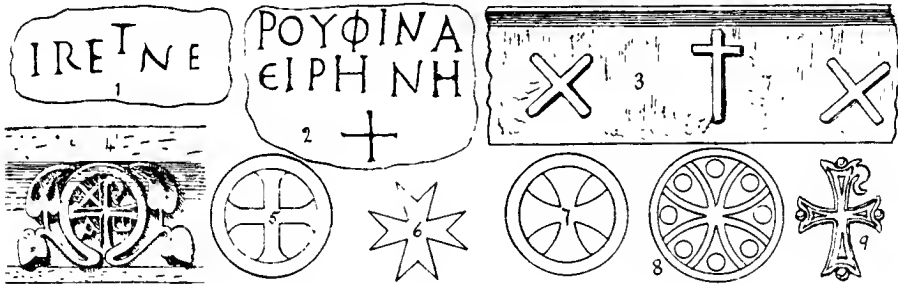


Fig. 10. Decorative Treatment of the Cross Form in classical art.

armed cross, or have been motivated historically. The words of Christ 'If I be lifted up,' and the necessity in the case of three crosses that the centre one should have a certain prominence, would naturally operate in favour of a lengthening of the supporting limb. As soon as the custom of carrying the cross as an attribute came into vogue as an artistic convention the form became the 'Latin' one. At first perhaps the real cross was an equal-armed one, and was fixed on the top of a staff to make it portable, but later on the mark of the junction disappears and the staff is just the supporting limb of the cross. For example, the cross held by John in the scene of the Baptism in the Baptistry at Ravenna, of about 450 A.D., is a jewelled cross patty with equal arms attached to a long staff, while in the rather earlier mosaic of Christ as the Good Shepherd in the mausoleum of Galla Placidia there is no break between cross and shaft. The long staff is sometimes a pointed stake, as in a figure in the early ciborium columns at St Mark's, Venice.

<sup>1</sup> *Nuovo Bullet. di Archeol. Crist.*, 1902, p. 6. It needs hardly to be said that in connection with Early Christian times there is no archaeological justification for the term 'Greek cross' and 'Latin cross,' any more than there is for the supposed 'eastern' and 'western' gestures in the act of benediction or allocution.

There are innumerable examples of portable crosses of this 'Latin' form carried by figures on Early Christian sarcophagi, and a general reference to the plates in Garrucci's *Storia dell' Arte Cristiana*, vol. V, is sufficient. De Vogué<sup>1</sup> signalizes an example of the fourth century at Chaqqa in Syria as very early. It is shown fig. 10, 3 as flanked by two St Andrew's crosses, and these crosses, with undoubtedly Christian significance, occur still earlier in a Palmyrene inscription of 134 A.D.<sup>2</sup> The St Andrew's cross (j) is called *crux decussata* from *decussis* 'ten,' with allusion to the Roman numeral X.

This employment of the X form as a cross leads on to the question of the chrismon or Christian monogram which we have just seen to possess a pre-Christian history. Monograms and similar devices were greatly in vogue in late Roman and primitive Christian times, and someone, apparently early in the third century, lighted on the discovery that this device contained constituent elements of the name of Christ. It appears at any rate in catacomb inscriptions that almost certainly date from this period, while a dated consular inscription of the year 269 A.D.<sup>3</sup> clearly exhibits it. Later on, especially after Constantine's victory over Maxentius followed by the Edict of Milan, it became exceedingly popular. Constantine had the device figured on the shields of the soldiers he led to the victory at the Milvian Bridge, and a few years afterwards, in 325, he placed it as the crowning feature upon his official standard, the so-called Labarum. Innumerable Christian monuments in almost all parts of the Roman empire testify to the general use of the motive in the centuries immediately succeeding the Peace of the Church.

The sacred monogram appears in different forms (h, h<sup>1</sup>, h<sup>2</sup>). It must be understood that the device was at first merely a monogram—an abbreviated mode of writing the sacred name—not a religious symbol. One of the earliest forms in which it occurs is in an inscription in the first area of the cemetery of S. Callisto which runs AUGURINE IN DOM ET ✱,<sup>4</sup> meaning 'in God the Father and in Jesus Christ.' Another catacomb inscription runs BICTORINA IN PACE ET IN ✱,<sup>5</sup> and Le Blaut gives one found at Toulouse in the form VIVAS IN ✱.<sup>6</sup> As a monogram the device took two shapes. I combined with X as above (h<sup>2</sup>), stood for Ἰησοῦς Χριστός; P with X in the more familiar form (h) for

<sup>1</sup> *Syrie Centrale, Architecture*, etc., Paris, 1865 etc., I, pl. 10.

<sup>2</sup> De Vogué, *Syrie Centrale, Inscriptions*, etc., Paris, 1868, p. 55.

<sup>3</sup> De Rossi, *Inscript. Christ. Urbis Romæ*, Romæ, 1861, I, p. 16, No. 10.

<sup>4</sup> De Rossi, *Rom. Sott.*, II, pls. xxxix-xl, 30. The date is the first half of the third century.

<sup>5</sup> Perret, *Les Catacombes de Rome*, V, pl. xxii, 35.

<sup>6</sup> *Inscriptions Chrétiennes de la Gaule*, No. 607.

Χριστός alone. There was however a third form of the device ( $h^1$ ) in which an upright cross, or the letter T recognized as we have seen as a form of the cross, surmounted by the P, took the place of the Greek X.<sup>1</sup> This stood for Christ as well as did the other forms, and it is in this shape, it may be noticed, that the device appears on the Kirkmadrine stones in Galloway. Its use there may serve to give an approximate date to the stones, for on Gallic monuments it occurs from the end of the fourth century to the middle of the sixth. The Christian monogram occurs frequently on Merovingian coins, figured in the work of M. Prou,<sup>2</sup> from the middle of the sixth through the seventh century, but always in the form with the X not the Tau cross. Gallic evidence would therefore favour a fifth or early sixth century date for the Galloway chrisim, for later than this we should expect the X.

The part of the monogram that stood for the Greek rho needs a word. The majuscule rho in Greek is of course P, whereas the corresponding letter in the Latin alphabet is R, and P stands for a different character. Hence it would be quite natural for unlettered stone carvers in the Latin-speaking countries to substitute the Roman for the Greek form of the character R. As a fact however, the substitution seems to have taken place in the East rather than the West. At any rate, among the stone houses of about the 5th century discovered and figured by de Vogué in his *Syrie Centrale* the chrisim with the supposed Latinized form of the rho is much in evidence, as in the example given fig. 10, 4. The P with open loop ( $k$ ) occurs also on many Byzantine buildings, notably on the Golden Gate of Constantinople and on the Column of Arcadius in that city.<sup>3</sup> It is found too on many Coptic tombstones, as for example in the elegant form, fig. 10, 9, from a slab in the British Museum, of seventh or eighth century date. The evidence indeed seems to show that the modification was first made among Greek-speaking peoples who would not be likely to confuse the Greek and Latin signs for R. Hence it must be concluded that in these oriental instances what looks like a Latin R is only an ornamental open form of the Greek P. This detail of the device may have been carried from the East to Gaul and to North Italy where it is common, while it appears very seldom at Rome and in the south of the peninsula. In Gaul it is found as early as the end of the fourth century, when it surmounts an interesting sepulchral

<sup>1</sup> 'Il y eut une autre forme de chrisime composé de la lettre T surmonté de P, ce qui donna P, et bien que n'offrant pas les éléments du mot Χριστός, ce monogramme fit bon service avec les autres et eut la même signification. Impossible d'établir une chronologie rigoureuse entre ces trois types.' Dom. Leclercq in *Dict. d'Arch. Chrét.*, Paris, 1907 f., art. 'Chrisime,' col. 1486. This article supersedes earlier treatments of the theme.

<sup>2</sup> *Les Monnaies Mérovingiennes*, Paris, 1892, p. lxxxv, etc.

<sup>3</sup> Strzygowski, in *Jahrbuch des Instituts*, VIII, 1893, p. 231.

inscription<sup>1</sup> of a lady baptized by St Martin of Tours, and it is especially in vogue in the sixth century. Here in the west, as in Galloway, it would of course be interpreted as an R not a fanciful form of P.

It must be borne in mind that in no form of it does the chrism appear on any monuments or works of art in Ireland, while in Wales, as Westwood remarks, it is 'of very unusual occurrence.' The most important Welsh example is that figured fig. 11, 1. It is an early sepulchral stone inscribed with the name of one Carausius who is said to be lying 'in this heap of stones.' This may be taken as proof that upright stones, like this one at Penmachno, North Wales, and those in Galloway, were originally bedded in cairns, and in this way is established—or confirmed for there is other evidence of it—the Christian use of this traditional pagan form of sepulchral monument.

The chrism, as we have seen, was at first a mere abbreviation with a purely literary significance, but later on became a sacred symbol which stood alone or surmounted or was introduced into an inscription with which it had no grammatical connection. In this form it was brought into vogue through its use by Constantine, and it must be noted that it was all along regarded as a form of the cross, for Eusebius expressly tells us that what Constantine saw in the sky was a cross, though the device in which the vision materialized took the shape of the chrism, and in later art we find sometimes the chrism used instead of the more normal cross to mark the cruciferous nimbus.<sup>2</sup>

The Constantinian exaltation of the device led to its display with artistic setting and embellishment, and the after consequences of this for monumental art in Great Britain were of great importance. According to Eusebius the banner of Constantine was surmounted by the XP form of the monogram enclosed in a golden crown studded with precious stones, and a laurel crown or a simple or enriched circle round the device, embracing and setting it off, as on the Syrian lintel, fig. 10, 4, and on the Galloway stones, became so common as to be almost universal, and the monogram or the simple cross thus surrounded makes its appearance on innumerable Christian monuments subsequent to the Peace of the Church. There is no question that this is the origin of the familiar wheel of the Celtic cross head. It is called 'Celtic' because it is of very common use in the case of crosses in Ireland, but it is of course an importation from classical lands. Into the chronology of it, or the geographical route by which it reached the shores of Erin, no special inquiry seems to have been made. It is quite possible that the route was not a direct one and that, like other elements in Irish

<sup>1</sup> Le Blaut, *Inscriptions Chrétiennes de la Gaule*, Paris, 1856, II, pl. 50.

<sup>2</sup> e.g., Garrucci, *Storia*, IV, Tav. 214, 224.

Christianity, it was transmitted through Wales. There is no space however here to enter on the difficult question of the absolute or



Fig. 11. (1) Early Tombstone of Carausius, at Penmachno, North Wales;  
(2) Stone at Whithorn, Galloway.

relative chronology of the sculptured crosses of Wales, nor to discuss the problem whether it was in Wales or other parts of Britain, or in Ireland, that was begun or accomplished the evolution of the wheel

cross head from the ornamental wreath round the cross or the Christian monogram, so common in Early Christian art on the Continent. Attention must however be called to the stone at Whithorn in Galloway, figured in the photograph fig. 11, 2. This is fortunately datable within comparatively narrow limits, and may be located somewhere about the year 600. Here the cross has assumed the form that is very general from the seventh century onwards where the outlines of the arms are arcs of circles, but it retains as a survival the loop of the P which belongs to the early chrism device. What is most remarkable is the fact that the cross in its circle is shown as elevated on a stem, and this distinctly represents the normal arrangement in which the cross is not merely incised on a slab but stands free on its own stem detached all round. Here the ring still encircles the whole cross, but on a cross slab at Margam in Glamorganshire, with a somewhat similar device, the treatment has advanced so far that the stem is in one piece with the lower arm of the cross, and this as well as the other arms lies over or cuts through the ring which begins in this way to take a subordinate position in relation to the arms. Another Margam slab, more advanced because originally the cross head was partly shaped and not contained within the rectangle of the slab, shows the arms not only in relief upon the ring but extending beyond it after the regular fashion of the 'Celtic' cross head. There is nothing to fix the date of these Margam slabs but they are not specially early. They are shown together from *Lapidarium Wallie* in fig. 12. It is enough here to have indicated the early stages in the development of the 'Celtic' cross head, which need not be considered Irish in its origin. The Whithorn slab may be regarded as of special interest as a point of departure. The further development of cross heads, which assume in Great Britain and in the Isle of Man a great variety of forms, is a matter concerning mediæval art rather than the Early Christian art with which this paper deals.

With regard to the decorative treatment of the simple cross form as found in the catacombs, this may be seen in the early example



Fig. 12. Two Stones of uncertain date at Margam, South Wales.

figured fig. 10, 2, to begin with the same use of the serif that we find in the letters of the inscription with which the cross is connected; that is, the ends of the upright strokes are a little spread out as an ornamental finish. As a fact the treatment in the classical schools throughout is never more than an extension of this. A more elaborate serif, like that of the elegant characters of the well-known inscriptions of Pope Damasus, leads to a treatment of the cross terminals such as is shown in fig. 9, b and c. In the important fifth-century ivories in the British Museum, on one panel Christ carries a cross in the Latin form and on another is crucified on a Tau cross, the terminals in each case being spread out serif-fashion.<sup>1</sup> When the ends are bifurcated, as in the Galloway examples, there is ultimately formed the eight-pointed cross called 'Maltese.' This occurs in Syria in the fifth or sixth century, as in the example from de Vogué fig. 10, 6.<sup>2</sup> An extension of the outward curve down to the intersection of the arms leads naturally to the cross formed by the arcs of circles which becomes a normal form from about 600 onwards (see fig. 10, 7, 8).<sup>3</sup> Innumerable are the examples of crosses in these simple forms in which there is no special treatment or enlargement at the part where the arms intersect. Fig. 10, 5 is typical of what is found in profusion on the Syrian lintels and in the other works of art enumerated on p. 216.

On works however of one particular class, and in connection with one special phase of Early Christian art, we find emphasis laid on this central region of the cross and with that a more free and fanciful treatment of the cross motive in general. The particular class is that formed by crosses, generally in the precious metals, that enshrine relics and were carried by ecclesiastics or worn upon the person; and the phase of art is that exemplified by Christian, and also as we shall see apparently non-Christian, objects of Teutonic provenance that make their appearance in Germanic cemeteries here and on the Continent. As an example of the first may be taken the pectoral cross found on the body of St Cuthbert at Durham, figured fig. 13, 1. The shape of the cross exhibits an advance on the Roman forms previously noticed. The arc of a circle is still the generating form but this is now used to give a common outline to two adjacent arms instead of two opposite ones. The point specially to observe is the centre where there is a round garnet in a setting that covers the place where a relic could be enshrined, while four smaller garnets are disposed about it, one in each intersection of the arms. These affect the outline of the whole jewel, and it may be remarked that the same features occur in

<sup>1</sup> Dalton, *Catalogue of Early Christian Antiquities*, Lond., 1901, pl. vi.

<sup>2</sup> *Syrie Centrale*, II, pl. 83.

<sup>3</sup> No. 8 is from De Vogué, I, pl. 49.

some of the carved stone 'High Crosses' of Ireland, as for example at Monasterboice. According to the prevailing fashion of dating British work from Irish, these High Crosses, being of late origin, would be supposed to carry with them a corresponding date for the Durham jewel, but such an inference would be entirely wrong. There is no doubt

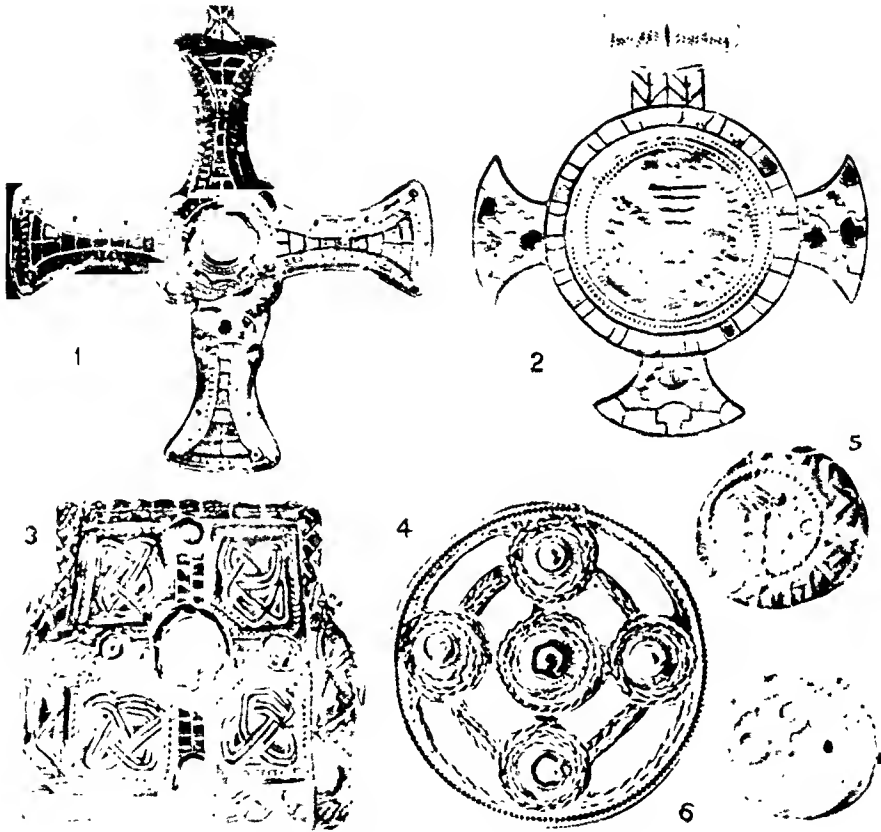


Fig. 13. The Cross in Teutonic tomb furniture, etc., and coins.

whatsoever that the pectoral cross is either Anglo-Saxon or Frankish work of the seventh century, and the detail in question may very likely have been carried to Ireland from Northumbria. In the St Cuthbert cross the central disc does not encroach on the general outline, but, as we have seen, if a relic or some object of special importance were enshrined in this part, the covering medallion might very well increase in size and a form be produced such as is offered by the cross on the 'Herford'



reliquary at Berlin, a Continental-Saxon work of the eighth century, or by the cross on a Merovingian reliquary given fig. 13, 3, and still more markedly by the so-called 'Wilton' pendant in the British Museum found in Norfolk and probably Kentish work of the seventh century, though the large central round here was not for a relic but for a coin of special significance. The piece will be seen fig. 13, 2. Venturi<sup>1</sup> notices that these metal crosses of Early Christian date are very rare, the large examples at Brescia and Ravenna where this encroachment is seen, being of mediæval origin. The famous Justin reliquary cross at St Peter's, Rome, a classical piece of the sixth century, does not show it, and on the whole this central enlargement seems rather a Teutonic feature. This impression will be strengthened by a glance at fig. 14, 1, copied from an illustration in Bandot's Report on the excavation of the Burgundian cemetery at Charnay, which shows a collection of crosses of fanciful shapes, evincing the barbaric taste to which this treatment of the cross form may be ascribed. Another Burgundian piece in the Museum at St Germain, fig. 14, 2, is marked with a cross of almost the exact pattern so much in evidence at Hartlepool and Clonmacnois, and is Christian work of about 500 A.D. It is an inlaid buckle plate. In our own country in some early Jutish fibulæ of the pagan period the cross with enlarged intersection and terminals is a common motive of ornament. Though probably used without Christian significance, the motive evidently existed in the repertory of the Anglo-Saxon craftsman, and would be ready to hand when cross motives were required in Christian times. Fig. 14, 3 and 4, give examples. The jewel found at Twickenham, of seventh-century Saxon origin, fig. 13, 4, gives, no doubt as a coincidence though the piece is of Christian date, a cross with circles on centre and arms and a wheel connecting the latter. See also *The Arts in Early England*, IV, pl. cxlv, for a Kentish example.

Coinæ are in this matter instructive. On the early Anglo-Saxon 'sceattas,' and on the Merovingian 'trientes' which preceded them, the cross is of constant occurrence, and there are sometimes circles and dots in the field which in some cases coalesce with the cross forming ornamental terminals to the arms. Fig. 13, 5 and 6, Anglo-Saxon sceattas of about the seventh century in the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow, illustrate what is here said. No. 5 shows the dots and circles, and in No. 6 the latter are seen affixed as terminals to the arms of a cross. We may find here the explanation of an ornamental cross form that occurs occasionally on Anglian carved stones in the north of England, and a somewhat rude example of which in a cross head at Carlisle is given fig. 14, 5. It has the central round and complete rounds on the ends of

<sup>1</sup> *Storia dell' Arte Italiana*, Milano, 1901 etc., vol. I, *ad fin.*

the arms, as on the slabs Hartlepool 8 and Lindisfarne 9, 11, and the sceat coin shows that the motive originates in early Teutonic art, whence it was taken over to serve a Christian purpose on Anglian sculptured stones, as well as in the pages of MSS.

The derivation of the form of the cross with which we have been

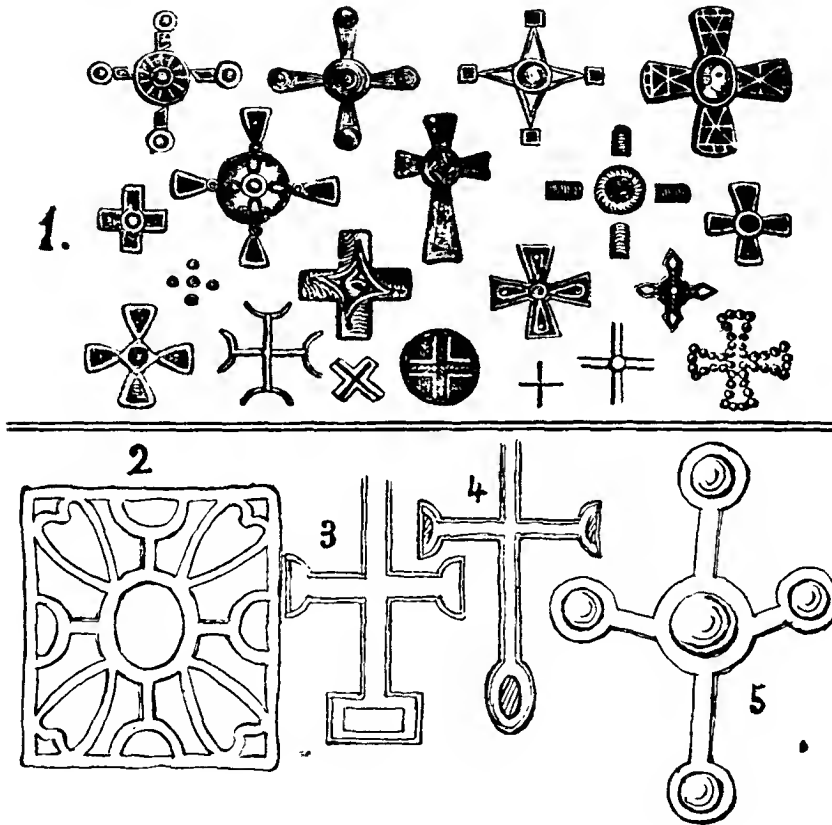


Fig. 14. Crosses in Teutonic tomb furniture, etc.

specially concerned has now been made sufficiently clear. Its appearance on the Hartlepool tombstones in the seventh or early eighth century is easily explained from Anglian sources, and Ireland may be left altogether out of the question. The intercourse between Great Britain and the sister island accounts for the transmission of the form to Erin, where it seems at one time to have possessed considerable vogue. That this time should be later than the time when the form was in use in England is all in accordance with the historical situation,

and is moreover a fact of considerable significance for the interpretation of the artistic phenomena of this whole period<sup>2</sup> of British art.

The assumption of Celtic priority in all matters artistic, spoken of *antea*, p. 210, has had a considerable effect on students of Anglo-Saxon art. There is one question in the domain of that art which is fundamental, and this is the date of the Ruthwell and Bewcastle crosses, for on the answer we give to this depends the arrangement and chronological grouping of the almost innumerable fragments of carved stones of the pre-conquest period in the northern and midland parts of England, with which are connected examples in great profusion in Scotland, Wales, and Cornwall. Until the two outstanding monuments just mentioned are located in a fixed chronological position the rest of the story cannot be told. Hence anything that has a bearing direct or indirect on this much discussed chronological problem is of value to archæology, and this may explain, and if necessary excuse, the length to which this paper has been extended. The conclusions at which we have arrived, though in themselves of minor intrinsic importance, are related to the larger question. Among the arguments used by those who oppose an early date for the Ruthwell and Bewcastle crosses is one based on a comparison with Irish monuments. The highly decorated Irish crosses are comparatively late, of the tenth and two following centuries, and it has been assumed that similar work in England and Scotland must be of contemporary or of later date. This view is expressed by Miss Margaret Stokes in the following words<sup>1</sup>: 'The evidence for the age of the Irish inscribed crosses being such as we have stated, they may be considered as giving a key to that of monuments in Scotland and the North of England, which exhibit sculpture of a similar character, and we are therefore inclined to question the very early dates' proposed for some Northumbrian examples. Mr Romilly Allen, in his *Early Christian Symbolism*, p. 85, takes the same view. 'The evidence,' he writes, 'as to the age of the sculptured stones of Northumbria is rather unreliable. . . . The general result of the above investigation is to show that in Ireland, where Celtic art originated, none of the ornamented sculptured stones can be proved to be older than the ninth century, and therefore it is very improbable that those in England, Scotland, and Wales can be ascribed to an earlier period.' The demonstration in this paper that in one particular detail of the art called 'Celtic,' the cross with central circle and semicircular or circular terminals, the form did not 'originate in Ireland,' but was imported thither from the domain of Teutonic culture, is sufficient ground for a reconsideration of the current theories as to the relation of Irish and British artistic forms in the Early Christian centuries.

<sup>1</sup> *Early Christian Art in Ireland*, Dublin, 1911, p. 108.

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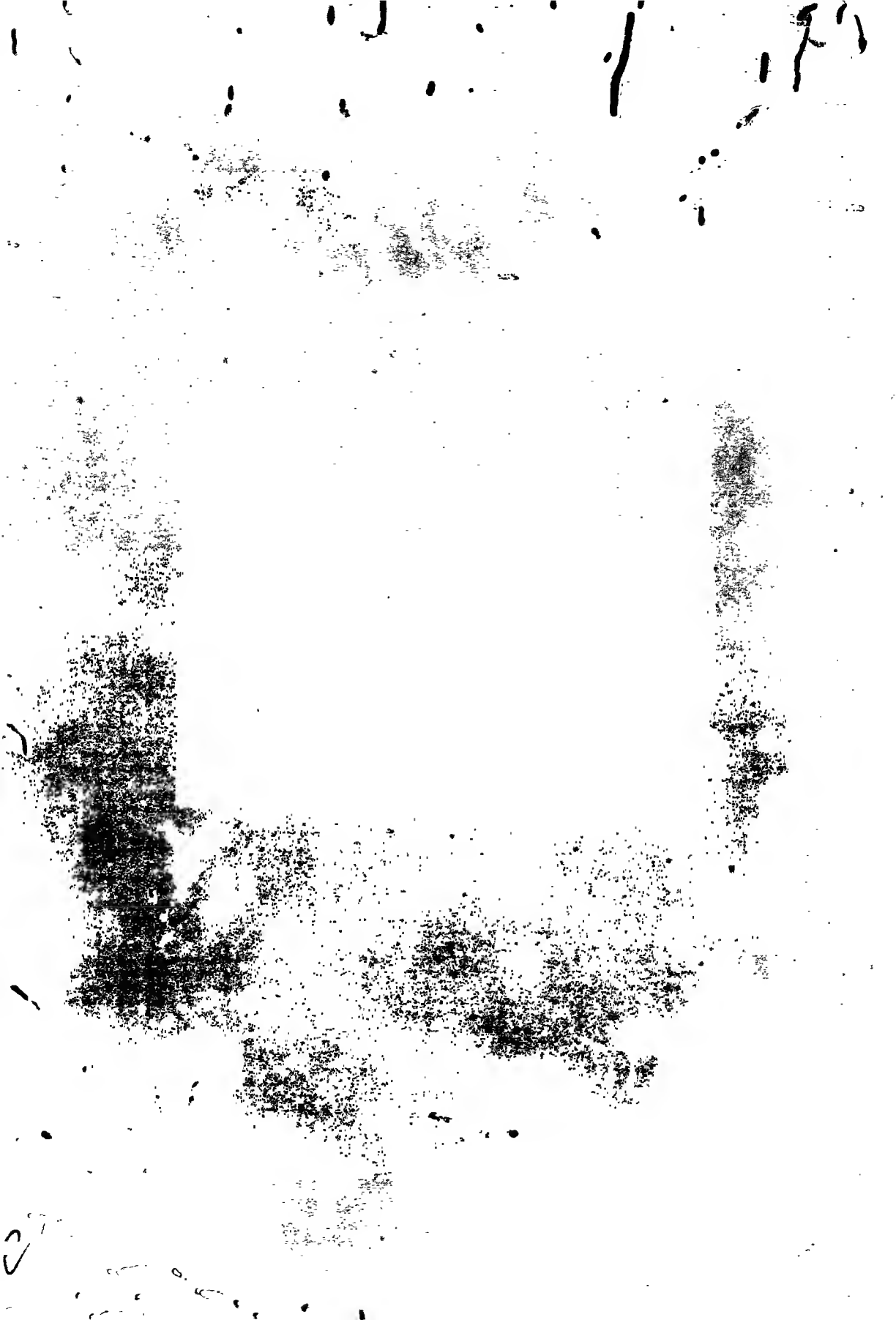
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